جوردان تليمز يومية سياسية تصعر بألانجليزية عن للؤسسة المنحفية الارمنية ،الراي،

BAHRAIN (AP) — A Chinese ship said to be carrying chemical weapons ingredients for Iran received fresh food and water Friday, weeks after it was denied permission to enter the Gulf to reach its port of call. The Yinhe has been suchored in the Gulf of Oman, off Fujairah, since Sunday, It was denied permission Aug. 3 to pass through the Strait of Hormuz on its way to Dubai. Dubai said it would not allow the ship to dock, after the United States warned that the vessel was carrying lethal chemical additives which would be unloaded at the emirate and shipped to chemical additives which would be unloaded at the emirate and shipped to Iran. Washington has said the ship would be allowed to proceed only after Beijing allows to have it searched. China has denied that the ship is carrying chemical weapons ingredients. In a ship-to-shore telephone contact, the Yinhe's crew said provisions were being unloaded onto their ship as a U.S. military helicopter circled overhead. Speaking in broken English, they identified the vessel bringing the provisions as Gaeship-5. That vessel's provenance could not be traced. But the Yinhe's local gens could not be traced. But the Yinhe's local gens are based in Dubai. The 19,237-tonne ship is being shadowed by the USS Ingraham. The Yinhe's captain, Rude Chang, said the U.S. ship was five metres from his vessel.

Volume 17 Number 5388

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AMMAN SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 1993 RABIE' AL AWAL 3, 1414

Price: 150 Fils

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**Prince** 

Tansu Ciller.

in Turkey

ANKARA (Agencies) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan arrived in Turkey on Fri-

day for talks with President Sulei-

man Demirel and Prime Minister

The Crown Prince, who is

accompanied by Her Royal High-

ness Princess Sarvath, will discuss

Arab-Turkish, Jordanian-Turkish

relations and other issues of com-

mon concern, the Jordan News

Agency, Petra, said.

A Royal Court announcement

said the Crown Prince would be

holding meetings with President

Demirel and Prime Minister Cil-

The talks will be held within

the international and Islamic

framework and will also cover

matters related to the general

His Majesty King Hussein vi-

sited Turkey earlier this month

following a visit to Amman by

Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmat

In comments to Turkish repor-

ters Friday, the Crown Prince

"His Majesty was very recently in Ankara. Prior to that we re-

ceived the Turkish foreign minis-

ter in Amman and we are happy

to see close coordination between

Turkey and Jordan on foreign

policy issues, both in the ongoing

attempts to revive the Arab-

Israeli peace process, our shared

concerns for the issues of the

hour and in particular the ques-

the border which is a subject of

The Azeri refugees crossing

tion of the refugees."

Cetin in July.

situation in the Middle East.

#### King receives cable from Yeltsin

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Friday received a cable from Russian President Boris Yeltsin congratulating him on the 30th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between both countries. President Yeltsin said his government is satisfied with the level of bilateral relations and the close cooperation exerted in the search for peace in the Middle East. The Russian president voiced his confidence that Russia and Jordan will benefit from the important available resources in both countries to further develop bilateral relations. He wished King Hussein continued good health and happiness and the Jordanian people further progress and prosper-

#### Palestinian youth shot in the eye

GAZA CITY, occupied Gaza Strip (AFP) — Troops shot a 15-year-old Palestinian in the eye Tiday in clashes following trouole the day before which left eight Palestinians and an Israeli soldier wounded, witnesses said. Soldiers opened fire on protestors in Rafah, where the occupied Gaza Strip borders Egypt, hitting the youth who was taken to Gaza's eye hospital with a serious injury. The clash erupted near where a grenade was lobbed at an army jeep and injured an Israeli soldier on Thursday, according to the army. The soldiers opened fire, wounding four Palestinians, witnesses said. Troops also shot three demonstrators in Gaza City and one in Nusseirat on Thurs-

#### Comoros seeks to join Arab League

ABU DHABI (AFP) - Comoros, a tiny island in the Indian Ocean, has applied to join the Arab League, Al Ittihad daily reported Friday. Arab foreign ministers will discuss the request when they meet in September, the semi-official paper said, quoting informed sources at the Cairo-based league. "The Arab League secretariat has completed a series of studies on the political, legal, historical and cultural aspects of Comoros as well as its Arab and Islamic affiliations," it said. The league, created in 1942, groups 20 Arab countires and the Palestine Liberation Organisa-tion. The three islands of Comoros, with an area of 2,950 square dilometres had been controlled oy Muslim sultans until the French acquired them in 1841. The country declared independence in a referendum in 1975.

#### Syria: Israel killing chances of peace

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria said Friday that Israeli settlers who set up seven mobile homes on the Golan Heights were threatening the Middle East peace talks. The official newspaper Al Thawra said the action could mean pushing to failure the coming round of the Middle East peace talks in Washington. "While Israel is deliberately working to kill the chances of peace and is stripping the peace process of the means of success, its aim beyond that is to prevent the coming round of talks from making progress and to doom its conclusions to failure," Al Thawra said. Witnesses said Wednesday that Jewish settlers had set up seven emobile homes on the Golan Heights. They said the settlers planned to declare a new settle-

#### Udai reelected head of journalists

NICOSIA (AP) - Saddam Hussein's eldest son, Udai, on Friday was unanimously reclected leader of the Iraqi Journalists' Association, the Iraqi News Agency reported. Udai Hussein received all 1,122 votes at an association meeting which he had summoned, INA said in a dispatch monitored in Nicosia. The meeting was held under the slogan, Democracy: a Source of Power for the Individual and Society, INA said. Udai Hussein, 29, runs the Babel newspaper, which has teen unparalleled in its criticism of his father's government. The father-son relationship has been rocky at times, although Udai's star has been rising of late.

# Hizbollah warns Israel against Lebanon raids

## Rabin says attacks that killed nine

## Israeli soldiers not a truce violation

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Resistance fighters vowed Friday to fire strikes in hills surrounding East Lebanon's ancient city of Baalinto Israel if it harmed civilians in South Lebanon to avenge the killing of nine Israeli soldiers by guerrillas.

The new threat was issued after civilian fears subsided of a huge Israeli retaliatory blitz similar to last month's assault on the south. Most people stayed put in their home towns and villages although hundreds packed a few belongings and took refuge with relatives and friends in safer areas.

An Israeli army spokesman said a 22-year-old Israeli licutenant died of injuries sustained in Thursday's bombings, raising the death toll from Thursday's attacks to nine. That was the highest one-day death toll since Israel carved out its self-styled "security zone" in South Lebanon in 1985.

The two guerrilla attacks, in the morning and at sundown, were claimed by Hizbollah.

In the first attack, Lebanese sources said three bomb explosions hit a 15-member Israeli army foot patrol near the village of Shiheen.

bek and the village of Janta in the castern Bekaa Valley near the Syrian border. Two guerrillas were killed, according to Hizbol-

After the air raid, two more bombs were detonated by remote control Thursday evening, targeting an Israeli patrol at a ravine about 800 metres from the scene of the earlier explosion.

The U.S. State Department condemned the Hizbollah attacks, saying they were "yet another calculated attempt by extremists to derail the peace pro-

After Israel's offensive last month, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher brokered a cease-fire that halted the Israeli "This violent act is yet another

calculated attempt by extremists to derail the peace process, just as preparations are underway to resume negotiations in Washington," the U.S. statement said. It urged all parties "to do everything in thier power to pre-

vent such violent acts from divert-

Israel responded with air ing them from the pursuit of a negotiated settlement of their differences and achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the region.

"If the enemy resumes hitting civilians Katyusha rockets will be fired against it again," Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah said in a Friday's prayer sermon at a Beirut mosque.

"We have said that we are against bombing (Israeli) civilians but if they want to kill our civilians they should know that we will not be the only ones to suffer.

"He who seeks to kill us, we will seek to kill him," said Sheikh Fadallab.

It was the most direct threat to resume Katvusha attacks made by a top Hizbollah leader since U.S.-mediated ceasefire "understandings" ended the seven-day Israeli bombardment of the south last month.

Under the ceasefire, the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) stopped firing Katyusha rockets into northern Israel. Security sources in the south

(Continued on page 10)



A group of Palestinian fighters in 'Ain Al Hilweh refugee camp seen during a military meeting to prepare an operation against Israelis in South Lebanon (AFP photo)

## King: Electoral change necessity, other amendments in due time

AMMAN (J.T.) - His Majesty introduce another temporary law King Hussein has said that the introduction of one-person, onevote system into the Election Law was necessary at this stage and that other amendments will follow it and when necessity dic-

"The recent measures concerning the Election Law were adopted after a lengthy debate that involved all points of views and at all levels," the King said in a meeting with journalists at the Royal Court. "We have found circumstances ripe (for such a move to give the chance) for all to exercise their rights to elect the next Parliament on equal foot-

ing."
The King added that this amendment might not be the perfect thing to have but other changes might be introduced in the future to go hand in hand with

developments. "We might find it necessary to at a later stage because we are But this is the way we chose and developing with the reality we are living in," the King said. "And to say that everything is one hundred per cent correct is untrue. But we always yearn to achieve the best.'

The King said that the amendment was only a very minor one introduced at this stage to rectify a defect discovered in the past. He said that other issues, such as giving the right to vote for Jordanian citizens outside the country and Jordanian Armed Forces, have not been tackled at present but might be addressed in the

"There are some loopholes (in the law) that have to be overcome, and we will continue to introduce ameliorations in the coming stages," he said pointing out that more discussion, cooperation and organisation were needed "which might take four,

will maintain with the cooperation of everyone."
The King emphasised Jordan's

commitment to its Constitution and National Charter and will to safeguard democracy and pluralism. He warned against any attempt to abort the democratisation process

"We are sincerely and honestly keen on promoting democracy, pluralism and respect of human rights," His Majesty said. "It seems to me that there are some who did not want this experience succeed and achieve its expected objectives and goals."

The King said in an answer to journalists' questions that "we must not live in a lie of unanimous approval on supporting policies. We are human beings and everyone has his/her own

(Continued on page 10)

deep concern in Jordan, the country which has hosted refugees from other conflicts, most notably and recently over 400 refugees from Bosnia and which shares with Turkey deep concern for developments in this West Asian and East Mediterranean

In reply to a question on whether he was carrying any mes-sages from King Hussein, he said: Basically there was an agreement during the foreign minister's meeting in Amman to establish or revive the Turkish-Jordanian joint commission, and it is our hope that during our discussions we will take this a step further.'

In reply to a question on Iraq, he said: "Clearly we are both countries that are neighbour to Iraq and directly affected by developments both in Iraq and as a result of the outflow of the Gulf war and the movement of demography which is of concern to us both, and indeed the question

of sanctions." Prince Hassan met with Ms. Ciller and conveyed to her the

Prince Hassan and Mr. De-Bosnia-Herzegovina and the suffering of the Iraqi people.

#### ms attack Egypt's worst wave of political may have an artificial joint fitted

CAIRO (Agencies) - Muslim militants who almost killed Egypt's interior minister in a bomb attack Wednesday targetted other ministers and top religious figures, security sources

They said militants now on trial in a military court were linked to one of the attackers and had staked prominent figures before their

Their targets included Religious Affairs Minister Mohammad Mahjoub, the sheikh of Al Azhar University and other public figures, the security sources said.

Wednesday's attack, which killed five people and wounded 15 including Interior Minister Hassan Al Alfi, was the militants' fourth major assassination attempt this year. Security officials said a claim of

responsibility by Al Jihad (Holy Struggle) group showed the government now faced at least two militant groups who may be outbidding each other for leadership of the Muslim fundamentalist movement seeking to set up a purist Islamic state in Egypt. "It's like the 1970s. There are

different groups, allies and rivals at the same time. Al Jihad want publicity. They will do anything to show they are the strongest group," a senior security official

Jihad was the group which assassinated President Anwar Sadat in 1981.

violence in a decade started last year with attacks on Christians, low-ranking police officers and tourists in upper Egypt, often claimed by Al Gamaa Al Islamiyya (Islamic Group).

But Al Gamaa have largely dropped out of the picture in recent months, apparently curbed by bloody police raids and 15 executions in June and July. In a claim of responsibility for

Wednesday's attack Jihad also threatened to retaliate for any harm that happens to its spiritual guide, sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman. He is iailed in New York on immigration charges.

"The Jihad group in Egypt declares responsibility for the last attack on Hassan Al Alfi, the interior minister of the Egyptian regime that fights Islam and carout the policy of America and Israel in the region," a handwritten statement said.

Gen. Alfi, whose ministry is in charge of police and has been cracking down hard on Muslim extremists periodically since Saddat's death in 1981, suffered a fractured arm in Wednesday's attack, when a bomb on a parked motorcycle exploded as his motorcade passed in downtown Cairo. Four people were killed, including at least one of the bombers, and 14 others wounded in the bombing and shooting after-

Gen. Alfi flew to Switzerland early on Friday for treatment. He

but movement of the arm could still be permanently impaired, sources said. The Jihad communique, tele-

faxed Thursday night to an international news agency in Cairo, said two of the organisation's members carried out the assassination attempt. It identified them as Nazih Nushi Rashed and Tarek Abdul Nabi Hassan, both of whom it said were killed. The statement's authenticity

could not be independently verified. But a lawyer who represents Muslim extremists in court said its historical references were authentic. The statment said the guerrillas

belonged to Jihad's Issam Al Kamari cell, named for an army officer sentenced to 15 years in prison after Saddat's murder. He was killed in 1988 in an abortive

Mr. Rashed lost a leg in Wednesday's attack and died in a hospital Thursday, after police identified him as an attacker. Police also originally identified a man who was dismembered by the blast as Hassan, a wanted militant. But they backed off that identification on the basis of a fingerprint check but said the dismembered man could have

been among bombers.

Mr. Rashed was wanted by authorities for belonging to the illegal Vanguards of Conquest, a successor group to Jihad.

#### Bosnia talks adjourn with draft map He also said the Bosnians had cluded documents on constitu-

GENEVA (AFP) - International mediators presented Bosnia's warring factions with a draft peace accord Friday including a proposed map for the country's ethnic division in hopes of ending the bitter 17-month Bosnian con-

But the Bosnian government delegation of President Alija Izetbegovic, promising to submit the plan to the Bosnian parlia-ment, said it was "not satisfied" as "the Serbs will not give up ethnically-cleansed territories which were taken by force."

The Bosnian Serb and Croat leaders, Radovan Karadzic and Mate Boban, also predicted a tough fight to get the package accepted by their self-styled par-

John Mills, spokesman for the year-old Geneva negotiations, announced that the peace talks were adjourning and would resume on Aug. 30 for what he called a "final meeting" here.

tional and other issues already worked out and a map for the division of Bosnia into three ethnic republics "reflecting the discussions that have taken Conference co-chairman Lord

Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg, urging all sides to show greater flexibility in efforts to nail down a settlement, first met alone Friday with Mr. Izetbegovic, who has heen skennical of chances for an early settlement. European Community (EC)

envoy Lord Owen said earlier there had been "substantial movement" on the map after agreements on constitutional principles, military arrangements, and temporary U.N. administration of Sarajevo.

The mediator said the Serbs and the Croats had made "important concessions" on the future status of central Bosnia that have 'gone some way'' towards resolv-

won guarantees of access to the Sava River in the north and Adriatic Sea in the south to avoid becoming a landlocked state at the mercy of their enemies. But Lord Owen said the main

problem was the amount of territory to be accorded the three parties. The Serbs currently control 70 per cent of the former Yugoslav republic, the Croats about 20 per cent and the Bosnians 10 per cent. The Muslims accounted for 44

per cent of Bosnia's pre-war population and Mr. Izetbegovic is seeking 43 per cent of the land while the original Serbo-Croat partition plan would give them less than a third.

Mr. Karadzic said the agreement gave at least 30 per cent of an ethnically divided Bosnia to the Muslim-led government. "It is a painful compromise

but this compromise may bring an end to the war," he told reporters as he left U.N. headquarters.

greetings of King Hussein. mirel discussed bilateral relations, regional and international developments, the Middle East peace process, the situation in

# New givens herald fresh strategies for Parliament hopefuls

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - The introduction of a one-person, one-vote formula to the election process has confused the campaign plans of some political parties and is likely to produce unex-pected winners in the Nov. 8 legislative elections, observers and commentators say.

The new temporary election law will require political parties and groups to consolidate efforts in order to ensure their candidates receive the highest number of votes at the polls in November.

Analysts and observers believe that political parties on the right, left or centre of the political spectrum will have to. first, consolidate efforts in each district in order to get one candidate from their political spectrum elected; and, second, to consider tribal and sectarian voting elements in each district before choosing their candidates; and, third, to consider having intra-party or coalition primaries in order to reduce the number of candidates vying for each seat.

"The one-person, one vote

formula will strengthen those candidates with popular base and those to whom tribal support is assured," said one lef-tist commentator after the new election law was made public last Tuesday.

"This tribal support can also be forthcoming in terms of regional origin - it is not restricted to tribes as such," added the leftist commentator referring to popular support accorded to Palestinian candidates in areas like the First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth districts in Amman Govemorate.

"The 'Palestinian issuc' is big in areas such as the Third District of Amman in which either Jordanians of prominent West Bank origin or Jordanians with a historical involvement in the Palestine cause are more likely to get votes than elsewhere will be elected." said the leftist commentator. With the one-person, one-

vote formula, however, votes would be split among what are expected to be up to some 20 candidates per legislative seat. Some political observers believe that even in traditionally

liberal voting areas, tribal or regional orientation could define the outcome of the elections rather than political programmes or platforms. "Traditionally the first prior-

ity of any voter goes to the family, tribe, fellow-townsfolk and the like; the second vote goes to the political programme, party and so-forth," explained a minister in the current government. "The first vote in the up-coming elections will be the only vote," he added referring to the one vote allocated to each voter.

Fearing that tribal- or clanvoting patterns will dominate the voting trend in all of Jordan's 20-voting districts, political observers believe that political parties and coalitions will have to discipline their strongest candidate in each district and prevent any rival candidate, who may belong to the same political group and social-regional clan, to hold off their candidacy until another election if they hope to assure themselves of seats in Parlia-

members and field their

ment. "There are seven registered

leftist parties in Jordan," said a member of the Jordanian Arab National Democratic Alliance (JANDA), an umbrella group for leftist and pan-Arab parties and individuals. Together with the three pan-Arab parties, they could form a coalition and field one strong candidate in each district and probably win," said one of the founding members of JANDA, the governor of Amman, Mamdouh Al Abbadi.

But the lack of unity among political parties in general and the left and pan-Arab parties in particular is likely to make this an unlikely scenario.

In the last elections, pan-Arab, liberal and leftist candi-dates won some 12 seats in the Lower House. Political observers close to the JANDA coalition say that unless the leftists and pan-Arab groups unite and come up with one combined list of candidates, they may lose seats in Parliament rather than gain seats.

While aware of the likelihood that a change in the Election Law was imminent, most of the political parties on the left of the political scale

had not prepared an alternative election strategy in the event that the only change to the Election Law be the oneperson, one-vote formula. Although this limited change

had been widely speculated about and expected, the leftist parties, joined by some of the pan-Arab parties, will formulate a new strategy this week pending the legal attempts by seven of these parties to protest and challenge the government's decision to opt for limited change in the Election Law.

Meanwhile, the Islamists, in particular the Islamic Action Front, continued to express opposition to the change. IAF insiders say that the

most likely campaign strategy of the Islamists will be to choose the most likely and popular candidate in each district of the Kingdom and field

"We are going to field at least one candidate in each district and two or more in a number of limited districts in Amman as well as Balqa, Irbid and Zarqa," said a spokesper-son for the IAF on Friday.

While the on-going debate in the Muslim Brotherhood movement and IAF continues on what to do about the change in the Election Law, most insiders believe that beyond written protests neither the IAF nor the other parties who objected a limited change in the law will take any action to protest the change.

The centrist and right-wing parties, which, along with one Islamist party, the Arab Democratic Islamic Movement (Dua'a), showed the least overall opposition to the limited change in the Election Law, are likely to retain the predominatly traditional and clan/tribal orientation of the last parliament, political observers believe.

"These parties are tribal and clan based as it is and thus even if they don't increase the number of seats formerly held by deputies who advocate such political currents they are unlikely to decrease in number.

At least 25 traditional, centrist and right of centre politicians held seats in the last parliament.

Secretary General of the Al

Ahd Party Abdul Hadi Al Ma-jali told the Jordan Times that some cooperation during the elections between centrist parties such as Al Ahd, Watan, Yakdha, the Jordan National Alliance and the Popular Unity Party was "very plausible" and indicated that some candidates would be agreed upon as a "joint candidate" in certain

That leaves three centrist parties to decide with whom or how they will form a coalition. Al Mustakbal, the Party for Progress and Justice as and the Unionist Arab Democratic Party have yet to align them-selves with any of the more clearly defined political orientations of the left, right or Islamist parties. Based only in part on tribal

affiliations the centrists represent mainly well-established urban groups that are business and industry oriented and are relatively small in number. Political observers believe that in order to win votes the centrists will have to field popular personalities or candidates with strong tribal or regional

# Palestinian institutions suffer as coffers dry up

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) huge network of social, financial and military operations is falling apart amid a crippling financial crisis.

Trained fighters are working as butchers' boys, experienced offi-cials are scraping a living working in restaurants and laundries, and tens of thousands of Palestinians accustomed to receiving many of the benefits provided by a real state from the PLO are finding their only source of livelihood cut

The financial crisis was precipitated by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's support for Iraq after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait, which promoted the oil-rich Gulf Arab states to withdraw funding to the PLO, estimated by the United Nations to have run into hun-

dreds of millions of dollars a year. Tens of thousands of Palestinians with well-paid jobs were thrown out of Kuwait in the aftermath of the emirate's liberation by a U.S.-led multinational force in 1991, leading to a further drying-up of funds.

The results have been devastating. Palestinian "prisoners of war" in Israeli military jails have not received their monthly payment of between \$75 and \$105 for

By Terence White

Agence France Presse

KABUL - Just the tail-fin was

visible, but that was enough for

the demolition expert to identify

the rocket buried in the Turkish

embassy garden as a Russian-made Orugan (Hurricane).

But this fin, the remains of a deadly 600-kilogramme monster

which can carry several types of

warhead, including high-

explosive and white phosphorus

incendiaries, had been fired on

Kabul not recently but a year

More than 70 civilians were

killed or wounded when this one

missile exploded in the air near

the Ministry of Communications,

showering the area with a cluster

of 50 small bombs, each the size

Last August, Gulbuddin Hek-

matyar's Hezb-e-Islami faction

guerrillas were besieging Kabul,

raining rockets and artillery shells

in the worst butchery seen in the

Afghan capital following the Mu-

jahedeen's April 1992 takeover.

those thousands of rockets.

That Orugan was just one of

A year later, Mr. Hekmatyar is

prime minister and Kabul is ex-

periencing a relative if cautious

calm, since latent bitter rivalry

between the Mujahedeen factions

erodes any real sense of Afghan

While the political machina-tions of Mr. Hekmatyar and his

long-term rival, former Defence

Minister Ahmad Shah Masoud,

are mostly covert, the external

manifestations of them are clearly

visible in the physical destruction

of whole suburbs of south and

west Kabul, now mostly empty of

inhabitants and as silent as the

swollen graveyards scattered

Yet the seeds of promise for a

The significant halt in rocket

attacks has emboldened a handful

of U.N. experts to return and

reactivate suspended projects in

Kabul, such as the city's water

supply, half of which has been

Electricity comes in fits and

restored in the last two weeks.

brighter future are being sown in

national unity.

among them.

war-weary Kabul.

of a medium mortar round.

to war-torn Kabul

salaries from the PLO for

PLO representation across the world has been cut back, and personnel at the head office in Tunis has been slashed. Two high schools run by the organisation have been closed down in Lebanon, home to 350,000 Palestinians, and where the Palestinian Red Crescent medical service has

been paralysed for a year.
- Families stormed a U.N. food store in a refugee camp in Lebanon two weeks ago and made off with sacks of flour and sugar.

But the most serious effect is in the Israeli-occupied territories of the Gaza Strip, the West Bank and East Jerusalem,, where, according to estimates by Palesti-nian economists, annual funding from the PLO for educational, social, health and political organisations has been cut by between

70 and 80 per cent. Economists estimate annual PLO funds to the territories of \$300 to \$310 million have dropped to between \$60 and \$90 million dollars.

Many Palestinian analysts see another reason for the Arab states' continued withholding of funds: They want to pressure the PLO into making concessions in

the Middle East peace talks. "Cutting off aid to the Palesti-Many academics, officials and nians is aimed at making them

er solution they can get," said Munir Magdah, head of the forces in Lebanon of Fatch, the main PLO faction.

In the West Bank and Gaza, the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas is welcoming with open arms Palestinians disillusioned with Mr. Arafat's organisation. Funding for universities in the

territories, with their 13,000 students, has all but dried up. According to Palestinian economist Samir Huleileh, the institutions received between \$22 million and \$25 million annually before the Gulf war: Now they get only \$2 million a year.

Lecturers at Bir Zeit, the most prestigious university in the occupied territories, have not been paid for two months.

The only course of action for the universities is to drastically increase their fees, which will mean 60 per cent of students abandoning their studies," Mr. Huleileh told AFP.

He added that 42,000 families eligible for PLO "social services"

risked going broke. The "people's committees' aiding the intifada are in serious financial difficulty. The committee in Tulkarm, in the north of the West Bank, has had its funds chopped from \$20,000 a month to \$5,000.

## Cautious calm returns GAO says building U.S. tanks in Egypt simple shopping excursion to the

downtown bazaar may be likened to a frenzied cavalry charge.

In strange contrast to radio rhetoric directing women on righteous public dress codes, buses are not yet segregared due. millions buses are not yet segregated due to overcrowding. Men and women find themselves packed in with the closest — and otherwise forbidden - physical proximity. Telecommunications workers have linked Kabul to at least a

quarter of the Afghan provinces to a report to Congress. by telephone, providing calls are made from the general post office, and although international calls from Kabul are still impossi-Some 2,000 of the 5,000 prerevolutionary public pay-phones

are still working, at an equivalent price of one U.S. cent for seven calls of unlimited duration. But some items seem

lously over-priced. A simple set of 10 kilogramme dumb-bells made from melteddown war scrap cost the body-building enthusiasts the same as a foreigner pays the famed chicken street traders for a hand-crafted antique knife of exquisite work-

Kabul University plans to reopen before the end of August, and a month ago some primary schools were activated, although classes are held under the trees because all classrooms are filled

with displaced families. "We will vacate the school when our homes are rebuilt and security is restored;" one woman

squatter said. Uniformed garrison forces have replaced guards on northside city intersections, but in the south and west of the capital, Mujahedeen of Hezb-e-Islami and their Shi'ite Muslim allies Hezb-i-Wahdat dominate, where they continue to duel with De-

fence Ministry forces. Food and fuel convoys, while starting to trickle through to Kabul from Pakistan, have yet to have a significant effect on food prices in the bazaar, which re-

main high. "We are only thinking about how to get our bread — not what the leaders are doing," said one

starts, the rocket holes in major shop-keeper. Of course we are hoping for roadways are being filled in and resealed, and at least three sets of long-term peace, but in the meantime survival is our main contraffic lights blink at the anarchy of Afghan motorists for whom a

costlier by

WASHINGTON (AP) - Several years and more than a billion dollars could have been saved if the United States had produced tanks for Egypt in America instead of financing a sprawling Egyptian tank factory, according

Nine years after President Ronald Reagan's administration agreed to start the arrangement, the factory near Cairo is largely unused and overhead costs are heavy, said the General Account-

ing Office (GAO). Production started in 1991 and only about 75 have been comof a planned 524 MIA1 tanks for the Egyptian

army, it said. The report was released Thursday by Democratic Representative David Obey, chairman of the sub-committee on foreign operations in the appropriations committee of the House of Repre-

Mr. Obey and others on his panel have been saying that Israel and Egypt, the top two recipients of U.S. foreign aid at levels unchanged for a decade, eventually must expect cuts.

The report said the State Department agreed mainly for political reasons to "coproduction" of tanks with Egypt, "an impor-tant Middle East ally." Depart-ment officials "were convinced that Egypt would not accept complete U.S.-built tanks as a substitute so they never considered that option seriously."

Financing began in 1984 with a \$150 million contract for the U.S. General Dynamics Corporation to design and provide other basics

for the tank factory. "If the United States had not provided the initial funding for factory design and construction oversight, (it) would have been in a better position to resist an Egyptian request for coproduction," the report said. Coproduction meant joint manufacture of tanks with most of them assembled in the Egyptian facility with Egyptian workers, the report said.

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## Guerrillas, Israelis wage electronic war in Lebanon

By Ed Blanche The Associated Press

NICOSIA — Iranian-backed guerrillas and Israeli soldiers are fighting a deadly electro-nic war in the desolate panhandle of South Lebanon, with both sides constantly outwitting the other to gain a temporary advantage.

The nine soldiers the Israelis admit were killed Thursday in an ambush in the Israel-occupied "security zone" along the border were victims of the guerrillas' increasingly sophisticated electronic bombs and tactics.

This has added a new dimension to the violence that has torn the flashpoint region in the Arab-Israeli conflict for more than two decades.

South Lebanon regularly explodes into serious fighting. Last month guerrillas unleashed broadsides of Katyusha rockets, while the Israelis responded with air strikes using "smart bombs"

and missiles. But most deaths in this vicious little war come from the unremitting conflict on the ground between 700 or so hardcore guerrillas, funded and armed by Tehran, and the 1.500 Israeli troopers patrolling the "security zone" with their 2,500-strong militia allies of the South Lebanon

Army (SLA). The Israelis, with their state-of-the-art weaponry, high-tech systems and intense military training, have long held the technological edge over their Arab foes.

But for the first time, they are facing highly motivated acquiring technical expertise Around 75 per cent of Hizbollah's attacks over the last 18 months used remotecontrolled roadside bombs in

the "security zone." Israel occupied the 1,100square-kilometre zone in Lebanon — the only hot combat zone in the Arab-Israeli conflict — in 1985 as a buffer against attacks on its northern settlements.

To thwart Hizbollah and other raiders, the Israelis fly round-the-clock surveillance missions using small remotecontrolled mastiff drones with high-resolution TV cameras over South Leba-

The drones' 22-horsepower motors make them virtually silent and they normally fly at around 4,180 metres so they cannot be seen from the ground. Their fiberglass construction makes them invisi-

They transmit real-time video pictures to Israeli military command posts and can eavesdrop on telephone con-

The Israelis' hilltop firebases, and the ravines and wadis used by infiltrators, are studded with listening devices and sensors that can detect human body heat from hundreds of metres away. But the guerrillas still get through.

The Israelis, employing tactics developed in the 1970s Irish Republican Army (IRA) in Northern Ireland. began countering the Hizbollah bombers by locating the frequencies they used to detonate their bombs, then transmitting on those frequencies to blow up the charges prematurely.

Security sources said this had some intial success, and at least six guerrillas were killed in two incidents last year when bombs they were preparing were detonated by Israeli transmissions.

 After the guerrillas figured out what was happening, they went back to using bombs detonated manually through command wires by men hiding within sight of the

But these kind of bombs are easier to detect because the wires can be spotted.

Hizbollah realised that their men needed sophisticated equipment such as receivers to monitor the Israeli transmissions, recording equipment to tape Israeli frequencies, computers to analyse the data and computer-controlled transmitters to detonate the bombs.

The sources said Iran provided Hizbolah with military experts and the equipment to develop a new coded remote-

control system, which was first detected last summer. It involved fitting bombs with "at least two receivers with scramblers" which meant the Israelis could not reproduce the detonation fre-

olained. But after two months, the Israelis managed to penetrate that system and detonated a roadside bomb prematurely after it was planted, although

quencies, one source ex-

without Hizbollah casualties. Hizbollah responded by fitting their bombs with small jammers which blocked the Israeli transmissions.

"These bombs were detonated by computerised multifrequency transmission systems operated by guerrillas keeping their target in sight." one source said.

Hizbollah's move into electronic warfare underlines the movement's growing sophis-

No longer do the bearded guerrillas wearing green headbands with Koranic slogans strut around the southem villages in plain view. They learned that such high-profile antics made them easy targets for the

Stealth is now their watchword. Even so, Israeli intelligence often locate buildings used by Hizbollah commanders which are hit by helicopter gunships and fighterbombers in a never-ending

Israelis.

effort to decapitate the movement. Until a couple of years ago, Hizbollah would attack Israeli or SLA positions with as many as 50 fighters in suicidal frontal assaults that

gained little at a high human cost. Now, they mainly operate

in small groups and have learned new tricks.

For instance, instead of just planting a bomb to hit an Israeli patrol, they plant a small charge that is detonated when a truck-borne patrol

Then, as the Israelis pile out of their vehicle to take cover, a second, larger bomb, often seeded with metal pellets or nails, is detonated as the soldiers are caught in the

# **NEWS IN BRIEF**

## Kuwait imposes 'permit' for foreign press

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) - Foreign journalists reporting from Kuwait must now obtain a permit from the government ahead of their assignment, according to a decree from Information Minister Saud Nasser Al Sabah. Foreign news agency correspondents, newspaper reporters as well as television and radio network journalists must first obtain permission from the Ministry of Information and promise to respect the code of professional ethics the decree said. Representatives of official press agencies in Kuwait will, for their part, need authorisation from the Foreign Ministry before setting up shop here. "Every press agency wishing to obtain a permit must respect the customs and traditions of Kuwaiti society, the press code and Kuwaiti regulations... otherwise the permit will be revoked and its holder may be pursued by the statement said about the two-year, renewable authorisation. Kuwaiti authorities, which had lifted pre-censorship on the print media in Kuwait in January 1992, have repeatedly warned journalists against harming the emirate's national secur-

## Israel offers to treat 20 Bosnian amputees

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel has offered to treat 20 Bosman children whose arms or legs have been amputated in the civil war, the health ministry announced. The offer was made a few days ago to the World Health Organisation which has asked member countries to help treat Bosnia's wounded. The amputees must be 17 years or younger and accompanied by a family member, the ministry's spokeswoman Rachel Bluestein told AFP, adding that Israel proposed receiving them since it is experienced in treating such cases. The children will be admitted to a new pediatric hospital in the Tel Aviv area to receive treatment and undergo the necessary rehabilitative therapy. Representatives from the health and foreign ministries as well as air force officials met Wednesday to discuss the children's evacuation from Bosnia and their reception here. Sunday's evacuation to Britain of 21 wounded and sick Bosnians from Sarajevo, dubbed operation Irma after one of the evacuated children, was strongly criticised by the Bosnian delegation at the peace talks in Geneva, denouncing it as a publicity stunt. In February, Israel took in 83 Bosnian refugees who were put up at a kibbutz (collective village) in the north.

#### Britain pledges more aid for Sudan

LONDON (AP) - Britain will provide an additional £3.5 million (\$5.25 million) for relief aid in Sudan, the government said Wednesday. Some £1 million (\$1.5 million) is for immediate relief in southern Sudan. The rest will be distributed through voluntary and United Nations organisations, the Overseas Development, Administration said.

#### Former Syrian army chief dies

AMMAN (J.T.) — Assistant Secretary General of the Arab Baath Party Salah Izzeddin Jadid died in Damscus Thursday at the age of 62. Major General Jadid was the chief of staff of the Syrian armed forces from 1962 until 1965 and one of the leaders of the 23rd of February Movement. He ws arrested and imprisoned by the Syrian government on Nov. 26 1970, less than two months after Syrian President Hafez Al Assad took office. The late Maj. Gen. Jadid is survived by his wife, three sons and two daughters, according to a report in Al Rai Arabic daily.

#### Mitsotakis praises 'responsible' Turkish policies

ATHENS (AFP) - Turkey has a "responsible" leadership and does not want to get involved in trouble in the Balkans, Greek Prime Minister Constantin Mitsotakis said in an interview published Thursday. He told the weekly Oikonomikos Tachydromos that Turkey did "not engage in reckless policy. It knows each time just how far it can go." Turkey was presently in a "very weak" position because of the "terrible problem with the Kurds" amongst other domestic issues, he said. Mr. Mitsotakis also criticised what he called the "trigger-happy" policies of the former Greek socialish government with regard to Turks. He said that under his government, Greek policy "has changed" in Western Thrace which is home to a large Muslim minority mainly of Turkish origin. There used to be "discrimination, administrative measures against the minority. Now the situation has changed," he said. On Cyprus, Ma Mitsotakis said the situation on the divided island was "not going well" and he saw no prospect of an early settlement.

#### Congressmen protest 1,000 Iraqi PoW immigrants

MIAMI (AP) — About 1,000 Iraqi prisoners of war (PoWs) and their families are quietly being resettled in the United States, say Florida congressmen protesting the move. They are asking President Bill Clinton to "stop this policy of welcoming our former enemies to our home," according to a letter released Thursday by U.S. Rep. Earl Hutto, a Democrat of Florida. Many are bringing dependents with them, and resettlement costs are estimated at \$4,000 to \$7,000 per person, said Mr. Hutto, just back from a tour of the Middle East, "Given the choice, I would much rather see that \$4,000 go to one of our own veterans, and not the people that were shooting at us," said Mr. Hutto's letter. It was also addressed to Attorney General Janet Reno and the Immigration and Naturalisation Service. U.S. Rep. Cliff Stearns, a Florida Republican who also wrote a letter on behalf of the Florida congressional delegation questioning the policy, said the PoWs are being routed from camps in Saudi Arabia to California, Michigan, Texas, Tennessee and Illinois as well as Florida. "We are worried about them coming to Florida. ...why don't they stay in Saudi Arabia? Mr. Steams said in an interview. "Basically, it's an insult to veterans everywhere who are not getting their fair share."

## Italy blocks arms sale to Mideast, Africa

ROME (AP) — Italian authorities say they have blocked a \$75 million sales of sophisticated weapons bound for two Mideast countries and several in Africa. Italian police arrested four alleged Middlemen — three from former Yugoslavia and an Englishman shortly after they concluded the contract last Saturday, police said. Marcello Fulvi, director of police anti-terrorism operations, said the arms were partly headed for two Mideast countries "at risk of war" and under "embargo." He declined to elav... te and officials in his office were not immediately available for comment.

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#### **QUEEN ALIA** INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian. (RJ) information department at the Ouean Alia International Airport Tcl. (08)53200-5 should always be verified ARRIVALS

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YEMENI VICE PRESIDENT ENDS VISIT: HIS Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Thursday bld farewell to Yemeni Vice President All Salem Al Beldh who concluded a two-day visit to Jordan. During Mr. Al Beidh's visit he met with His Majesty King Hussein to discuss pan-Arab affairs and Yemeni-Jordanian relations. Developments in the Arab-Israeli peace process were also reviewed at the meeting which

was attended by Chief of the Royal Court Khaled Al Karaki, other senior court officials, and the Yemeni assador to Jordan. King Hussein underlined the importance of dialogue between Arab countries and briefed the Yemeni guest on Jordan's democratic process. Mr. Al Beidh agreed with the King's call for inter-Arab dialogue to achieve pan-Arab solidarity (Petra photo)

## Crown Prince tells Gulf press Arab action needs revitalisation

By Samir Hiari Special to the Jordan Times

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AMMAN - His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Thursday called for reviving the common Arab action mechanism and referred to a suggestion by the Arab League to pursue such action through a regular meeting of whe Arab League Council, sche-duled for September.

At a meeting Thursday with representatives of the Gulf press, Prince Hassan dismissed reports the Arab Be of an Arab summit in Morocco. Jay at the at Prince Hassan said, however, he Syrian az that such a summit is urgently needed to discuss an agenda full ed by the  $\varsigma_{ijk}$ of concerns and problems.

.. The Crown Prince also dismissed reports of an imminent visit by His Majesty King Hussein to Saudi Arabia. Jordan is working diligently to bridge the gap in bilateral Jordanian-Saudi relations not because of contemporaneous positions, but a keen desire to safeguard the future of the interviev 5

joint Saudi-Jordanian identity. Prince Hassan praised the role of the Arab states of the Gulf and Saudi Arabia, especially in supporting the Arab-Israeli peace process and the Arab countries involved in it.

He called for intensifying Arab coordination to come up with a unified Arab perception of the future of the region. Prince Hassan also called for On Cypns.%

inter-Jordanian press meeting and another Jordanian-Arab press meeting to discuss the Gulf

The Crown Prince stressed the importance of inter-Arab coordination and cooperation in serving Arab issues and interests, and noted that 80 per cent of the



He also underlined the importance of utilising past successful bilateral experiences.

On the peace process, Prince Hassan said features of the present phase of the peace process are not vet clear as there is a difference over several issues, including the early delegation of authority and the transitional Palestinian rule.

Regarding the proposed confederation between Jordan and Palestine. Prince Hassan said it is difficult to talk about confederation or federation before securing self-determination for Palestinians. But that does not stop Jordan from looking for formats on the issue, because the Kingdom continues to support the

Palestinians in securing their right to self-determination, he said. Prince Hassan noted that the security and cooperation basket

should include other issues such as water, environment, energy and immigration. On Jerusalem , the Crown

Prince said he has already prepared a special study-based on three elements: spiritual and religious; political sovereignty; and administrative. The first element provides for freedom of movement and performance of religious rites and holding inter-faith dialogues; and the second element stresses that Greater Jerusalem is part of the Arab territories occupied since 1967, and that Palestinians should exercise their

our society," he said.

The new world order, said Dr. Majali, has placed a serious challenge before the Arab order, and the Arab League Charter was unable to rise to the level of these challenges, and many of the Arab League's weaknesses were revealed by the developments witnessed in the Arab and world

arenas. Nevertheless, Dr. Majali said the Gulf crisis provided an opportunity to rebuild an Arab order on a new basis.

## Majali highlights some results of Gulf crisis

AMMAN (J.T.) - His Majesty King Hussein has taken the decisive decision to change the parliamentary Election Law after giving those concerned the chance to express their views on the issue, Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali said.

In a lecture delivered at the Regency Hotel Wednesday to the American Universities Alumni Club, Dr. Majali said the issue has consumed a great deal of effort and time and thousands of papers before it was settled by the

King.
After being familiarised with the various views, it became apparent that the democratisation process needs more than one amendment before Jordan can reach the aspired stage of matur-

ity, he said. 'Now that the issue has been settled, true citizenship requires from us, out of our rights and duties, to participate in the election, either as candidates or voters, with our utmost awareness, wisdom and integrity," the prime

minister added. Dr. Majali said in his lecture, which focused on current issues, education and investment in hitman resources, that democracy was not a theoretical and philo-

sophical model, but a practice --a building established on solid ground, strong basis, with its bricks placed one by one, in accordance with a flexible plan that takes into consideration the real situation without doing injustice to the basic aspects.

Jordan, he said, was destined to face more changes.

To remind you, the geography and demography of Jordan have changed several times since it was established in 1921, and with every change we had to re-arrange our plans, re-adjust our march and review our priorities to be able to face emergencies and developments," the Premier said.

He added that Jordan now stands on the threshold of sizeable changes, reminding the audience of the changes brought about by the new world order and the sudden collapse of a super power under immense internal and external pressures.

When this took place, he commented lordan watched the Arab World turn into an early scapegoat for this new world order. The Kingdom has always stood for unifying the ranks of the Arab nation and overcoming dis putes, but its calls were lost in the midst of the turmoil and the events took their turn and Jordan found itself moving against the current on its own, Dr. Majali

"Nevertheless, we managed, in spite of the economic crisis facing us, to stand the big challenge, thanks to the cohesion between the leadership and the people and vice versa, and thanks to the people's confidence in God and themselves, and to the awareness, the education and culture of

## Majali pledges to address RJ problems; privatisation study contract finalised

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Maiali has affirmed that the government is determined to resolve the problems facing the national carrier, Royal Jordanian (RJ). and instructed the airline and the concerned ministries to launch a close dialogue on the proposed privatisation of the airline, sources said Friday. Dr. Majali, accompanied by

the ministers of Finance, Planning, Energy and Mineral Resources as well as the chairman of the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ), held an intense round of talks with senior RJ officials headed by President and Chief Executive Officer Mahmoud Balqe2 Thursday and expressed his desire and determination "to resolve the airline's problems once and for all,"

said a senior source. The pledge, however, did not mean that the government would step in with funds to address the airline's chronic debt problem, but that privatisation moves would be accelerated, said the source,

who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"A review of the RI operations during 1992 and the first half of 1993 was conducted and this proved the operational viability of the airline," said the source. "But the picture changes when one considers

the debt problem. "Dr. Majali reaffirmed that the government felt that the problem has been lingering for too long, and that the best way to solve the problems of the airline is privatisation and ordered a close dialogue between the concerned ministries and RI," said the source.

The discussions, which will focus on the various aspects that come into play in the context of privatisation and the present affairs of the airline, will be followed by another high-level encounter of the nature held Thursday, the source

Officials estimate the debt of the airline at around JD 250 million. Half of it is owed to government corporations and agencies in Jordan such as the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company, the Housing bank

and the Social Security Corporation, and the rest is owed abroad.

The source noted that Thursday's meeting marked the first time that the government had displayed such a high level of seriousness and resolve to tackle the problem facingthe airline.

As evidenced by the performance of RJ in the past years, the airline could make operational profits despite the global recession affecting air travel, but slips heavily into the red when it comes to servicing its debts, accumulated since the 80s.

Officials and airline industry sources say that privatisation is the best means to address the airline's problem. The idea was first floated several years ago, but no concrete moves were taken to pursue it.

As is usual in national privatisation drives, the proposal for RJ has also drawn opposition from within the airline. Several senior officials say they believe that if the airline is helped through its debt crisis, they could put it back on its feet without external support and

The main hurdle in such a course of events is the government's inability to pump in any huge amount into the airline.

Raising the capital of the airline to at least \$100 million from the present JD 22 million (\$33 million) as well as privaisation were recommended by a study conducted by an inter-

national firm last year. Other sources said meanwhile that a government committee had chosen an interna-tional consulting company to conduct a complete assessment of options available for privatisation and come up with the best mechanism to implement

No further details were available, and the sources declined to name the company which was to be awarded the study among four international firms which were shortlisted after they submitted their offers. Officials said earlier the contract could be worth anywhere between \$250,000 to \$500,000 "depending on the nature of the work that will be entrusted and the extent of consultancy

## Japan names 3 areas of contribution to Jordan

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Japan, an active participant in the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace process, has identified water desalination, tourism and the Red Sea environment as three distinct areas of contribution to Jordan within a regional context, the Japanese ambassador to Jordan said Friday.

Ambassador Yuji Ikeda said Japanese experts had paid several visits to Jordan to follow up on the implementation of programmes related to the three spheres.

Mr. Ikeda said two sites had been identified as possible siting of pilot projects for water desalination - one in the Jordan Valley and the other near the Dead Sea - but specific details such as cost and other parameters had still to be worked out. Addressing the water needs of

the region's countries and work-

ing out practical programmes acceptable to all the concerned parties is seen as one of the key elements that would guarantee any peace settlement reached in the bilateral track of negotiations involving Israel, Jordan, the

Palestinians, Syria and Lebanon. Syria and Lebanon are staying away from the multilateral negotiations saving it would be a wasted effort until progress is made on the bilateral track, which tackles the core issues of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In addition to water, the regional talks, spread among five working groups, include regional economic cooperation, arms control, refugees and the environ-

"Japan is concentrating on developing tourism in Jordan in the context of regional economic cooperation," said ambassador Ikeda, limiting his comments on the Japanese role in the peace process to Jordan.

The Japanese assistance to Jordan in tourism will mainly focus on developing tourism sites as well as infrastructure to sustain and upgrade the level of tourism services in Jordan.

Japan, which chairs the multilateral working committee on the environment, has found that the preparedness of Jordan, Egypt and Israel to cope with any "environmental emergency" on the Red Sea was below the desired level. Mr. Ikeda told the Jordan

"It is very important that every country be prepared to cope with an imaginary emergency such as water pollution in the Red Sea," said the ambassador.

The Japanese contribution in this regard will be in helping Jordan to upgrade its handling of solid waste at Aqaba, he said. The recent flurry of Japanese diplomatic activities in the Mid-

dle East as represented in the.

officials from the foreign ministry was mainly aimed at familiarising key Japanese diplomats with the perspectives and viewpoints of the concerned countries, ambassador Ikeda said.

He noted that Toshimori Shigie, head of the Middle East and Africa department at the Tokyo foreign ministry, who visited Jordan two weeks ago had assumed his post recently. Akio Tanaka, director of the

first division of the Middle East and Africa department at the Tokyo foreign ministry, visited Jordan immediately after Mr. Shigie's departure.

Mr. Tanaka has been in the

post for over one year, Ambassador Ikeda said. Both officials handle multi-

lateral and bilateral relations at different levels. During the visits, the officials

also discussed Jordanian-Japanese relations in general visits to the region by two senior terms, the ambassador said.

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#### Food production to get boost from Japan the project to the Japanese team AMMAN (Petra) — The lack of and described the ministry's policies for increasing production of

sufficient agricultural equipment is the main reason for the low rate of cereal production in Jordan, a

Japanese government. At a meeting Thursday, Dr. to reclaim arable land.

roads and materials like fertilisers and pesticides make the increase of cereal production impossible.

Some of the machinery and equipment needed include harvesters to reap lentils and chick peas, of process which today is being done manually, he

The lack of proper agricultural duction in Jordan.

Sources said that the meetings before they sign minutes on Aug. 26 summing up their deliberations and preparing for the imple-mentation of the project.

downtown Amman.

Ministry sources said the Japanese technical team, which started a visit to Amman on Aug. 17, is currently collecting information and statistics, visiting several agricultural areas in the Jordan Valley, Irbid and Madaba and collecting data on means of boosting potatoes and cereal pro-

right to self-determination.

will continue on a daily basis

# cereals and potatoes and its drive

problem that Japan will hopefully help solve, according to a statement released Friday by Agriculare Minister Marwan Kamal.

A visiting Japanese team has been studying ways to help Jordan implement a project for increasing food production; the project will be financed by the

Kamal presented an outline of

## Nurses to train in U.S. in cancer patient care

AMMAN (Petra) — A group of 19 male and female nurses will travel to Washington D.C. on Fuesday to start a specialiseu post-graduate training course at Georgetown University on caring for cancer patients. The announcement was made

here Thursday by Abdullah Al

Khatib, rapporteur of a national team charged with setting up A! Amal Cancer Centre near the University of Jordan. Dr. Khatib expressed gratitude for the efforts of Sawsan Majali. who holds a Ph.D. in nursing and is a member of the national team. Dr. Majali worked with the Georgetown University adminis-

tration in preparing for the prog-

ramme that will train the nurses

for a masters degree in cancer patient care. At a meeting to report on the progress of Al Amal Centre, Dr. Khatib said that Munir Buweis, a Palestinian expatriate doctor living in the U.S. has expressed readiness to contribute to the creation of a paediatric ward car-

ing for children with cancer. The national team was repre-Sented at European conference on aid to hospitals and medical services, held in Amsterdam last June, said Dr. Khatib.

The team has submitted a request for \$7 million in aid for the cancer centre from the Dutch government, which is now studying the request, he said.

Meanwhile he added purchases of equipment for the centre will be made from the Netherlands as well as other European nations. The team, which had discussed

in detail a proposal by the former Lower House of Parliament that would tax materials or organisations found to cause cancer in Jordan, has submitted a request to this effect to the Prime Minister, announced Dr. Khatib. While work continues to final-

ise the purchase of equipment and complete the cancer centre project, noted Dr. Khatib, the financial committee has reported the collection of JD 7.750.835 so far to finance the centre's construction, equipment and opera-

He said the national team expected to earn JD 360,000 from the sale of 15 plots of land, and JD 24,000 from the sale of 19 vehicles and gold jewellery and other in-kind contributions worth nearly JD 80,000.

### WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

#### **EXHIBITIONS**

Exhibition of oil paintings by Iraqi artists Nashaat and Shawkat Al Alousi at Alia Art Gallery; includes 30 paintings depicting popular life and national scenery in Iraq, as well as

Exhibition of paintings by Jordanian artist Bishara Najjar at Eshbelia Art Gallery, Amra Shopping Centre. The paintings depict Jordanian-Palestinian heritage, Jordanian antiquities, Arab Jerusalem, rural life and natural scenery.

★ Exhibition of a new collection of art works by Princess Wijdam Ali at The Gallery, Hotel Jordan Inter. Continental.

★ Exhibition of paintings by 25 Jordanian artists at the Royal Cultural Centre.

☆ Exhibition by Iraqi artists Mohammad Husseln Judi and Shawkat Al Alousi at the Royal Cultural Centre.

#### JERUSALEM FESTIVAL ☆ Exhibition of paintings, posters, Palestinian costumes, books

and other items on the Holy City of Jerusalem at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation. ★ Exhibition of books on various subjects at Ai Hashimieh Plaza,

Amphitheatre, downtown Amman, at 8 p.m. A Lecture, in Arabic, by Lebanese singer Julia Boutros on the goals of the artistic movement at 6:30 p.m. at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation.

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University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

## **Education and democracy**

TODAY MARKS the beginning of the new scholastic year for the primary and secondary levels of education. This new start in the process of education in Jordan provides yet another opportunity to assess the relationship between a proper education system and the process of democratisation. Lately, there has been a great deal of debate and deliberations on the principle of one-person, one-vote formula, as if the perfection of the existing legislation governing elections in the country were all that it takes to put the Jordanian experiment in democracy on the right track. Little or no attention has been given to other facets of public life, including the kind of education that still nurtures our younger generation and the future voters in the Kingdom and moulds their thinking.

The commencement of this school year should therefore be yet another reminder that more relevant than amending current laws with a view to making elections more democratic is how Jordanian citizens are being prepared for the big day when they cast their votes intelligently and effectively. There is no better way to channel the attention of the nation towards education and its dynamic role in the new democratic style of government than by engaging our educators in a thorough dialogue at the highest possible level too.

When His Majesty King Hussein takes members of the mass media to task on the future development of democracy in Jordan, as he in fact did on Thursday, education-minded people have a right to suggest that an equal opportunity be anorged to jorganian educators at every level of education in order to further extend the multidimensional approach to democracy. Given the fact that there is a growing consensus that our present educational system leaves much to be desired, one wonders why our interest in fostering a more progressive educational system appears to be slackening, especially when our concerns about democracy cannot be complete without paying due attention to our schools and institutions of higher education.

Jordanians should be expected to learn the ABC of democracy in schools. That is why other nations in the world with strong roots in democracy have introduced civil training even in elementary education. Even more critical than formal education is the introduction of a democratic style of education at the earliest possible class level. In this context, higher education is just as neglected as pre-university education. This means that teachers and professors need to be targetted not in terms of policing them but rather in terms of redirecting their orientation and perspective in order to better suit the new Jordanian democracy.

#### **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

ONE CAN say that the countdown to the parliamentary elections has already started and those who were awaiting a decision concerning the Election Law can now embark on their programmes, preparing for the election, said Al Ra'i daily. The paper said the coming elections are bound to be fair and free as a voter can only choose one candidate, a process which is deemed fair for all constituencies. The hopefull candidates are expected to show enthusiasm in their election campaign and the people of Jordan are expected to turn out in great numbers to cast ballot, predicted the paper. This is rather expected, said the paper, since the registration process witnessed great keenness on the part of the people to participate in this democratic practice which indicates that all voters are keen on making the Jordanian democratic march a real success. But success, said the paper, requires efforts on the part of all parties — voters and candidates — and there is need for voters to carefully study the situation before choosing the people who could best represent the public interest. Indeed; added the paper, the success of the coming elections will not be a success for the candidates who win the seats in Parliament, but a success for the Jordanian people and their democracy.

A CC!. UMNIST in Al Dustour daily focused attention on King Husseir's call on the Jordanian people to prepared themselves for two great projects: democracy in their country and the attainment of the objectives of the Great Arab Revolt. Saleh Qallab said that by enhancing the democratic principles in Jordan we are setting a good example for other Arab states which have suffered a great deal, last ly due to the lack of democratic rule. The writer said that there can be no real Arab unity without democracy and without every Arab feeling that he or she has real interests in that unity. He id the Arab World had witnessed bitter experiences in its attempt to forge unity and all these attempts for unity had failed sime y due to lack of democratic rule. The Arabs at present are divided and their domestic affairs are in total disarray and this situation c ; for a real new Arab revolution, a revolution designed to build and not to destroy, said the writer. He said that for such a revolution to succeed and achieve the aspired unity, and ontes hould first njoy democracy as without it the revolution w to tail because it would be a military dictatorship.

Jordanian Perspective

By Dr. Musa Keilani

## Teething troubles of democracy

THE SCENARIO that unfolded on the Jordanian political arena in the wake of the realisation that the much-heralded one-person, one-vote system is here to stay is very interesting. Not that the realisation was stunning, since the writing was on the wall since early 1990. But the timing of the formalisation of the move and the developments that preceded and succeeded it and continue to manifest themselves are the factors that could do with a closer

The first and foremost question that appears to hang in the air is: Will the Nov. 8 elections be boycotted by some of the groups which have threatened to do so if the 1986 Election Law were amended outside Parliament?

And, obviously, the follow-up question is: If indeed there is to be a boycott, how is it going to affect the democratic process under way in Jordan?

In my reading, one does not have to look too far around for the

answers since they are already here.

It is highly unlikely that any political group will boycott the elections. Of course, it cannot be ruled out that some of the parties whose ranks include well-known names and ex-deputies might do it just for the heck of it. It will be a political message as well as a witting or unwitting effort to raise question marks on the legitimacy of the polls in the international eye. But, in practical terms, the voter would still find the same candidates who might have run on the party ticket going "independent" and very much in the race, come the day when nomination closes.

Those who might drop out between now and the closing of the nomination period would be doing so for their own reasons which have less to do with a principled, political stand against what the opposition describes as an unconstitutional move by the government than with personal convictions that they stand little chance of making it to the legislature if it were left to the voters exercising their valuable single vote.

The simple reason for the conviction that there will not be any boycott worth the name in November is the clear indications on the political scene that it has sunk in among Jordanian political circles that those who opt to stay out will stay out and it would be no one's loss but their own.

Again, if there is not going to be any boycott, then the follow-up question does not arise at all.

In the meantime, all the brouhaha that we hear — of condemnations, criticism and loud protestations and threats of legal action — is the workings of a society trying to adapt itself to the trimmings of democracy as well as the strings attached to the system of "of people, for the people, and by the people" in the Third World.

That does not mean that issue is settled and sealed, or the politicians who are crying foul will call it a day and turn their energies into electioneering. On the contrary, there are enough politically skilled individuals in our society who appreciate the aura of free publicity that would accompany a formalised legal

challenge to the amendment to the Election Law. It might even suit many aspirants to the domed parliament house to spend some of their election funds on lawsuits rather than on advertisements, posters and banners. It is not the sole prerogative of ex-members of Parliament to go to court and challenge the legality of the amendment to the law. After all, isn't

it how democracy-based politics works in many countries.?

What will be interesting to see here will be how many would try
to get aboard the legal challenge bandwagon and whether those who have already staked a claim to a seat to free publicity will allow others to climb up.

There could be hundreds of arguments and counter-arguments of the timing and the constitutionality of the electoral change, and whether a one-person, one-vote formula on its own is compatible with the givens of the Jordanian electorate, tribal affiliations and minority reservations and political considerations. But it has to be understood that Jordan had to start somewhere in amending its electoral process, and the amendment to the Election Law could be that first step in this direction.

However, that does not negate the fact that the switch has upset many a political quarters in Jordan and that by and large they might even have a legitimate reason to get upset.

The backdrop to the discontent is simple and clear: ex-deputies

who had made it to Parliament under the benefits of the bloc-voting system in 1989 feel cheated out of victory in the Nov. 8, 1993 elections since the voting system has changed. Other opposition to the changes to the Election Law has very

little to do with indignation or pains over what is described as circumvention of constitutional provisions. They are worried about their reelection chances under the new system, particularly that many of them are aware that they did not exactly do an acceptable job of addressing the interests of their constituents in the four years they served in Parliament.

Exceptions are there of course. But then, those who can claim to be those exceptions have nothing to worry about. For them, Amman, Irbid, Zarqa, Maan, Karak or Aqaba means the same since they enjoy popularity throughout the Kingdom and in every

In any event, from my vantage point, what I see on the democracy we all aspire for.

#### New York City continue to pile Ramzi Ahmad Yousef, also p. charged in the trade centre case; If defendant Ibrahim Gabrouni last month the U.S. offered a \$2m: constituency they have enough supporters to see them through

Jordanian political scene are the teething troubles of a democracy, and one does not have to lose any real sleep worrying over what is the fate of democracy in Jordan. Quite simply, the tug-of-war and wrestling that we see today is part of the

#### THE WEEK IN PRINT

## Amendment to Election Law—response to political developments in the country

Reviewed by Elia Nasrallah

The local press in the past week gave prominence to His Majesty King Hussein's meet-ing with the press and the change introduced to the Election Law, other domestic affairs and the general situation in the Middle East region.

In his meeting with the journalists at the Royal Court, the King stressed that the amendment to the Election Law was directed against no particular group, but came in response to present needs in light of the recent political developments in the country, said Al Dustour

It was clear, said the paper, that the King is mainly concerned with the success of the democratic march and the success of the coming parliamentary elections which, he stres-sed, should be fair and free. As always, the King has

been frank and open in his talks with the Jordanian press, commenting on the recent amendment to the Election Law and underlining the need for all people to participate in the coming election, said Al Ra'i daily.

Stressing that the change in the law followed a wide-range dialogue, the King said he was keen on giving people equal rights to ensure free and fair elections and enhance the democratic process, said the

By amending the Election Law, the King has plugged a constitutional loophole that plagued the existing law and has opened the way for equal opportunities for all voters, said Salameh Ekour, a col-

umnist in Sawt Al Shaab. The writer said that the amendment would undoubtedly contribute to a large extent towards helping the Jordanian citizens bring to Parliament the right persons to represent them in the coming four years.

A columnist in Sawt Al Shaab cailed on political parties to coordinate their steps and pool their efforts if they want to be represented in the

coming Parliament. The one-person, one-vote system is bound to weaken these parties' chance of reaching Parliament and, therefore, they have no alternative to merging or coordinating their plans and focusing attention on a selected number of persons of their choice, said Ahmad Dabbas.

A columnist in Al Dustour said that the amendment to the Election Law should have also included provisions ensuring the secrecy of the vote by the illiterate l'ordanians.

Taher Udwan said that an illiterate person would of course need the help of one of

the committee in charge of the balloting centre who would either read aloud the person's choice or could fake it. The writer suggested issuing

voter cards with special signs or photos clearly indicating the candidates so that the illiterate people mark the picture or the sign and so ensure the secrecy of balloting.

The writer also suggested that the government interfere and put an end to practices by some rich candidates who normally resort to "bribing" with food, money to other means of tempting the voters to support them in the election.

Abdul Rahim Omar, a columnist in Al Ra'i, urged members of the public to turn out in strength at the coming elections which, he said, would be more fair than those of 1989.

Amendment to the Election Law was directed against no particular group, but came in response to present needs in light of the recent political developments in the

The writer said that the oneperson, one-vote system is considered fair because under the previous system people in some constituencies were given a choice of six persons while in others they were given only two. He said the Jordanians are called on to enhance the process of democracy by participating in the coming parliamentary elections.

This view was countered by Mona Shqair, a columnist in Al Dustour, who said that the government was committing a grave blunder by introducing the amendment to the Election

The writer said that it is wrong to introduce amendments to such a sensitive law without first conducting a comprehensive national dialogue.

She said that elements opposed to the Jordanian democracy are monitoring the develop-ments and they would capitalise on this step as an antidemocratic move that benefits the regime alone.

A columnist in Al Ra'i said that the women in the Jorda-

nian society can be classified into two groups: The majority of working women or house-wives who are really close to women problems, and a group of rich women who do not realise any of the sufferings of the first group.

women voters should choose their women representatives in Parliament from among the first group and should be careful in their choice. If they cannot do that, they

Laila Humond said that

should leave the matters to men to represent women and defend their causes, she demanded. She said that it is natural for

women not to agree on matters which are sometimes of common interest to them, but in this case they ought to pool their efforts and choose the right women if they are keen on protecting their own in-

Saleh Al Qallab, a columnist in Al Dustour, criticised a system adopted by the Jordanian universities in which they have what they call "exception" lists of students who are given seats in various faculties without being subjected to the normal procedure of "preference for the average."

The writer said that many young men and women are frustrated every year as they watch others with lower grades allowed to enroll while they are rejected.

The writer said that the state universities would be doing a grave injustice to a large sector of young men and women and depriving them of a better future should they persist in such practice.

A columnist in Al Dustour called on the concerned authorities to give due attention to promoting public services in the capital, Amman, in the summer time.

For at least two months in the summer, Amman is overcrowded with people: expatriates returning for holidays or students coming for visits or to enroll at the colleges. Khairi Mansour said that the

presence of throngs of additional people in the capital tends to give it a new and busy life, but the capital is badly in need of recreational and other services to cope with this huge number of people and especially for the children.

A guest columnist in Al Dustour said that delay for more than two years in completing the Amman-Jerash-Irbid road has cost the country huge

Abdul Raouf Tell said that the delay has forced travellers to follow other routes to reach their destinations, causing them more exhaustion and

wasting their time and money. The writer said that despite the announcements on the part of the Ministry of Public Works that the otherwise project was nearing completion, the facts on the ground speak otherwise.

Kelening to the s dle East peace process, Mahmoud Rimawi, a col-umnist in Al Ra'i, said that the Israelis have succeeded, of course with American help and backing, to render the Arab-Israeli negotiations meaning-less, though the whole peace process was based on the U.N. resolutions.

The writer said that the coming round of talks is bound to end in failure, like the previous rounds, since Israel is still pursuing its aggression and since Washington has not changed its attitude.

Referring to the upcoming Arab coordination meeting in Beirut, in preparation for the next round of Arab-Israeli negotiations, Al Dustour daily said that the meeting should see to it that the Arab countries are in agreement regarding a united stand to be taken at the coming meeting.

The Beirut parley could be decisive since it comes after a tour of the region by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher who has held consultations with the Arab ministers taking part in the coordination meeting, said the pap-

Projecting a pessimistic mood, Taher Al Udwan, a columnist in Al Dustour, said that the coming round of Arab-israeli talks would not meet a better fate than any of the previous rounds. The various Arab parties involved in the negotiations are linking the progress of the negotiations to progress that should be achieved in the Israeli-Palestinian track, he said. The writer said that as long as there is no progress on this track, due to Israel's intransigent stand, nothing can be achieved

in the coming round.

Mahmoud Rimawi, a columnist in Al Ra'i, said that while arranging for the Arabs and the Israelis to hold more rounds of peace talks, the United States continues to plant mines in the path of peace by providing the means with which to help the Israelis build thousands of housing units for immigrants, especially in the Jerusalem area.

The writer said that the Jewish settlement programmes are continuing unabated and are backed by the United States, which is sponsoring the peace talks which supposedly are intended to end Israel's occupation of Arab land.



## An Israeli link to bomb plots?

By Jane Hunter

A Mossad mole?

Sacramento Ca. — Reports a allegations that intelligence agencies infiltrated the social circles of Arab immigrants charged in the war, Pakistan and fought with the

a paid informant for the FBI. Youse's whereabouts. Immigraobtained forged Nicaraguan pass- tion authorities arrested Mr. Ajai ports from an arms and docu- when he presented a phony passtions to carry out kidnappings.

The passports were allegedly to be used in springing Sayid Nosair from the New York prison where The indictment notes that he he is serving a sentence on brought bomb-making manuals charges linked to the 1990 assas- into the country. If Mr. Ajaj was sination of Meir Kahane.

when officials, searching for evidence in the trade centre case. Mr. Salem to testify about the leaders of the "terror front" in passports, prosecutors indicted Khartoum. him in the case of 11 men arrested on June 24 and the days following ters and two tunnels connecting might just be grandstanding Manhattan and New Jersey. might just be grandstanding trying to insert elements of confu-Manhattan and New Jersey.

The minute I made this organised and financed the bomb plot. Both are still at their posts. plots of which they are accused.

Lurid accounts in major U.S. newspapers have depicted the Nicaraguan source of the passports as a transnational centre of leftist terrorism. Mr. Salem's possible access to the facility sug-gets that it may have been infiltrated (perhaps even manipu-lated), if not by the FBI, which controlled the former Egyptian army colonel's infiltration of the circle of followers of Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, then by any one of a number of other intelligence agencies.

Last week, in a first-ever interwith the CIA. Mr. Salem said he had access to the message centre at the U.S. embassy in Cairo and described a secret cryptography room in the building, Mr. Nosair recounted. He also said that "Emad said the CIA told him the KGB was behind the Kahane killing because to many Russian Jews were coming to the U.S.". Mr. Nosair said. He also alleged that Mr. Salem, a former bodyguard for President Sadat, had once worked for Soviet intelli-

Meanwhile, Kol Ha'ir, the Israeli weekly, reported that Ahmad Ajaj, a Palestinian awaiting trial in the World Trade Centre case, was a Mossad mole. The paper says that Mossad turned dollars. The New York weekly Village Voice, which repeated Kol Hair's report, said that, while Mr. Ajaj claims to have been arrested for intifada activism, tortured and then in April on no known list of deportees. dle East International.

Mr. Ajaj travelled to Pesha-

bombing of the World Trade Mujahedeen in Afghanistan be-Centre and an alleged conspiracy fore arriving in New York last to blow up major structures in September on the same plane as is telling the truth, Emad Salem, reward for information on Mr. mentation depot in Managua port; they freed him on probation that, authorities say, was used by pending appeal of a refugee claim? Latin American leftist organisa- on March 1, two days after the bombing, then jailed him again a week later. He was not charged with the bombing until May 6.

still working for Mossad, says the Voice, it must be wondered Mr. Gabrouni is Mr. Nosair's whether the Israeli agency had cousin. He was arrested in March advance warning of the attack.

Another Israeli report, in found the passports. Mr. Gab- Hadashot claims that Israeli inrouni was to be tried on Aug. 2 telligence services had warned for possession of forged docu- U.S. officials that Sudan had ments and a shoving match dur-ing the search. But last infonth. The in New York and was back-after he claimed Mr. Salem had ing terror squads there. The asked him for photos of the Israelis passed on the information Nosair family and his attorney 'in March 1993, the paper said. William Kunstler subpoenaed following a Feb. 19 meeting of

The purpose of the reports, on charges of plotting to blow up which appear to be deliberate the U.N.. the building housing leaks blessed by the Israeli centhe FBI's New York headquar- sor, baffled several experts. Israel

sion into what has already beclaim." Mr. Kunstler told Middle come a veritable snarl, suggested East International (MEI), pro- one expert. Earlier reports of secutors "pulled him into the Israeli infiltration have been spegreat conspiracy case ... so they culatively attributed to a desire to can keep Salem on the stand in inflame U.S. opinion against one case, not two. I knew I was radical Islamists. The allegations on the right track when that about Sudan came at the same happened." The defendants in time that a pro-Israeli magazine the "great" case — they are in the U.S. was reporting that two mostly of Sudanese origin - Sudanese diplomats at the U.N. claim that Mr. Salem instigated, were linked to the alleged second

Whether intended or not, the reports cannot but increase the pressure on the men facing trial. who are already coping with purported confessions purveyed by prison informants and rumous that one of their number has cut a deal with the prosecution. The authorities, said William Kunstler, may be trying to create a "stampede effect". Robert Precht, the attorney for Mohammad Salameh, who goes on trial in the trade centre case next month, said he hadn't heard of any defendant going over to the prosecution. They certainly haven't made Salameh an offer and view, Mr. Nosair claimed that if they did, Salameh would reject Mr. Salem, who visited him in it because he's ready to go to prison, told him he was involved trial. He wants to vindicate his name." Mr. Precht told MEI.

> The defendants must also worry about the effect on potential jurors of what Mr. Precht terms "anti-Islamic hysteria" churned out in press coverage of the cases.
>
> Last week U.S. District Judge Michael Mukasey, who is to try the second case, warned prosecutors to stop their leaks to the press - these have recently included such extravagances as reports that the defendants dealt in Pakistani opium — or he will query law enforcement officials under oath to find the leakers.

Meanwhile, administration efforts to put to rest charges that the CIA secretly sponsored Mr. Ajaj while he was serving 30 months for counterfeiting U.S. had dubious success at best Offi-Sheikh Abdul Rahman smultiple, cials have yet to deny a New York Times report that it was the CIA working under diplomatic cover in U.S. embassies that issued the cleric four of the seven visas for 1991 deported to Jordan, the now in detention facing a de-Palestine Human Rights Centre in East Jerusalem says his name is tion request from Egypt — Midele



# The saviour falls from grace

By Shyam Bhatia

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM -On the day the Palestinian troika of Faisal Husseini, Hanan Ashrawi and Saeb Erakat threw down the gauntlet to Yasser Arafat, the popular West Bank maga-zine Al Bayader Al Siyassi shocked its readers with a 180-degree change in its editorial line.

Until six months ago the magazine, financed by the PLO and popularly referred to as "Arafat's poodle," regularly printed the Palestinian leader's pictures on its front page along with stories praising him as the saviour of the nation. No longer.

Palestinians are not surprised. The crisis between PLO headquarters in Tunis and Palestinian negotiators in the occupied territories has been building for months — signs first loomed after Arab Gulf countries abruptly cut off aid to the PLO after the Gulf war. Squeezed by its donors, the PLO, in turn, is squeezing its beneficiaries in the occupied territories, including tens of thousands of families who were supported by monthly grants or

The latest issue of Al Bayader was published after a six-month suspension due to lack of funds. It attacks Mr. Arafat, his organisation and policies that have "brought disaster" to the Palestinians. One article even blames the PLO for "fatal mistakes" that have caused the deaths of thousands of Palestinian refugees in neighbouring Jordan and Lebanon. It goes on to argue that the financial crisis of the PLO is the result of Mr. Arafat's hasty decision to side with Saddam Hussein in the Gulf war.

Another article calls for an end to "dictatorship and totalitarian-ism" in the PLO.

"It's time to stop lying," says the author, a well-known Palestinian academic from Arab East Jerusalem. The PLO-appointed head of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks, Dr. Haidar Abdul Shafi, also calls for demo--cratic reforms and an end to Mr. Arafat's one-man rule.

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The reasons for the U-turn become very clear in the insidepages, where the editor is depicted with Mr. Arafat's enemies in Damascus, including Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam. The magazine editor, Jack Khazmo, has for a decade echoed the PLO's anti-Syrian views. Now he praises Syrian President Hafez Al Assad's "wise leadership," and his defence of Arab rights. Earlier this year Mr. Arafat cut

off all financial help to dozens of PLO-funded institutions, such as universities, newspapers and even health centres. The most recent casualty was the PLO's 20-year-old daily newspaper Al

One of the newspaper's embittered editors, who still has a portrait of Mr. Arafat hanging

above his empty desk, said: "This is how Arafat compensates people who faithfully served him for 20 years. We have wasted our time and risked our lives to protect this man. Now look what he has done to us; 60 families have been thrown to the dogs."

Last week the managing editor. Ali Khalili, a prominent Palestinian poet and writer, suffered a massive heart attack after losing his job. He told well-wishers who called on him at Al Makassed hospital on the Mount of Olives that he blamed his illness on the PLO leader. "I haven't been able to find a decent job," he com-plained. "Who will feed my children? Perhaps it is time for me to seek a job with the Israeli

Some of his colleagues have had to accept fundamental pro-fessional changes. One, who has a master's degree from an Italian university, is selling ice cream on the streets of Nablus, the largest city in the West Bank. Another has hired himself out as a labourer on a construction site in Tel

"Today I make 300 dinars a month (about £270) from working in an Israeli factory," explain Ghazi Bani Odeh. "When I was a journalist, I was making 50 dinars. This change means I can start to live with dignity. I have realised you can no longer rely on the PLO, because now it is both financially and politically bank-

The financial crisis is one of the reasons why members of the Palestinian delgation are furious with Mr. Arafat. Some of them have been obliged to give up a luxurious lifestyle that used to be paid for by the PLO. Among the accessories they have surrendered are private secretaries, chauffeurs and sleek, rented cars. One Jerusalem car rental company is still owed \$20,000 (£14,000), which it has lost all hope of recovering. Saeb Erakat, one of the delegates, says telephone, electricity and water bills for Orient House, the delegation's East Jeruselem headquarters, have not been paid for three

The cash shortage coincides with the absence of progress in the 21-month-old Middle East peace talks. Both events contribute to a growing sense of desperation, even anger, that is directed against the delegates.

Stories of corruption have been circulating ever since the PLO was founded in 1964. Critics say the tens of millions of dollars have been pocketed by greedy local PLO representatives. This is a reference to the Amwai Sumud or "Money for Steadfastness", that is meant to help Palestinian families living under occupation. Such accusations are rarely excause it would be difficult to subtantiate them.

Yet there was never any doubt that money was an essential tool



asser Arafat money was an essential tool in the chairman's strategy of sustaining popular support

than two months ago he personaly authorised the expenditure of \$130,000 to win control of the Student Council in the West Bank university of Hebron, which had until then been under control of his fundamentalist rivals, the Islamic Hamas move-

The university was shut down after Mr. Arafat's supporters the university president's car and beat up Hamas loyalists. When the university reopened in time for the elections, it was revealed that outsiders masquerading as students had been drafted and paid to vote for the pro-PLO list.

Two years ago a New York-based Palestinian publisher, Paul Ajlouni, decided to break the taboo of never washing the PLO's dirty linen in public. In a series of front-page articles in the now defunct Al Fajr, he revealed details of opulent meals, first-class air travel and luxury villas that had become a way of life for the PLO's favourite sons living in Western Europe and the U.S. The decision to allow the articles to be published was meant to be a demonstration of the PLO's internal democracy, but they appeared only in the Englishlanguage edition, which does not circulate among the masses. Last week's public dispute, the

first of its kind involving local Palestinians challenging Mr. Arafat, erupted because delegates believe their status was being deliberately undermined by PLO headquarters. Unwilling to accept the role of mere messengers, the delegates demand the right to participate in the PLO's

ecision-making.
After the U.S. Secretary of State Warren Ghristopher's recent visit to the region, the three senior members of the Palestinian delegation packed their suitcases for an unscheduled trip to Tunis. Before leaving, they leaked the news of their intended resignations to a local Arab newspaper, but refused to confirm or deny the story.

"This whole story about the resignations is all nonsense," says university professor Riad Al Mal-

in Mr. Arafat's strategy of sus-taining popular support. Less peace talks. "The only victor out of all this has been Arafat. But he has a computer-like mind and he neither forgives nor forgets. They should ask themselves what has been achieved — certainly no concessions from the Israelis.

"They came back to tell us that they are now part of the PLO, but who cares. My conclusion is that the entire confrontation was staged to boost their popular standing, so that they have a good chance if general elections are held here in the occupied terri-

To sooth the rebellious troika's injured pride, Mr. Arafat has announced that the men are from now on to be members of a top PLO committee that supervises the progress of the peace talks. The links between the delegates and the PLO were always an open secret. But by making them public and official, Mr. Arafat hopes to kill two birds with one

On the one hand, he has subjected the delegates to strict PLO discipline. In return for improving their status, he expects them to be his messengers. At the same time, the PLO leader hopes that by creating new facts on the ground he will accelerate recognition of the PLO by Israel and the United States.

When the peace talks began in Madrid in 1991, it was agreed the PLO would have no formal role. Ever since, Mr. Arafat's goal has been to overturn this polite fiction by repeatedly demonstrating who makes the real decisions for Palestinians. He has been encouraged by

signs that the Israeli government moving towards direct talks with the PLO. When Israeli Environment Minister Yossi Sarid met Mr. Arafat's top adviser, Nabil-Shaath, in Cairo, he had Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's The impact of this diplomatic

shadow-boxing will be measured at the eleventh round of the peace talks that opens later this month in Washington. If the mood of optimism continues to spread, the Middle East may be



Save water .... every drop counts!

## Moldova hopes for a share of world wine market

By Janet Guttsman Reuter

HINCHESTI, Moldova - The shiny new bottling equipment looks somewhat out of place behind the rusting gates of Hinchesti's biggest wine-makers.

But the machinery, part of a 500,000 barter deal to market Moldovan wine in Europe and the United States, may be just the first step in reviving an almost

stagnant industry.
It could give the former Soviet Republic, csandwiched between Romania and Ukraine, a chance to penetrate new markets with its reds and slightly sparkling dry

"We have stopped the fall in wine production and now we are looking forward to a revival," Gheorghe Cozub, head of viticulture at the Moldovan Agriculture Ministry told Reuters.

"I know there is a glut of wine in the West, but I am sure we can find a niche.

Neatly tended vineyards cover the hills around Hinchesti, an agricultural town 40 kilometres from the Moldovan capital Kishinyov.

Wine plant Director Nicolae Sterbet said his company was delighted with the new equipment, supplied by Australia's penfolds wine group in exchange for promises of 600,000 litres of wine from the 1992 harvest.

"This is only the first tiny step." he said. "Cooperation is not going to stop here. It will continue and intensify."

Moldova, the second biggest wine producer in the former Soviet Union after largely Muslim Azerbaijan, is still trying to overcome the impact of a draconian anti-alcohol campaign launched by former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in 1985.

Tens of thousands of hectares of vineyards were ripped up, and it takes years for replanted vineyards to yield fruit.

Mr. Cozub said Moldova's wine production was currently about 400 million litres a year. down from 600 or 700 million

litres in the pre-Gorbachev years. Vineyards currently cover 170,000 hectares of Moldova, although a government programme aims to increase this to 200,000 hectares by the year

Production is currently sold almost exclusively in the former Soviet Union. Wine costs about 400 Moldo-

van foubles a bottle (30 cents) in Kishinyov shops. Moldovans drink it like Russians drink vodka, downing an average-sized glass in a single gulp.
"Our exports really were not

big enough to count in the past," said Mr. Cozub. "But last year we exported 4.5 million bottles through a Dutch firm and this year we will sell another 3.5 million bottles abroad. We believe we can reach 20 or

25 million bottles or three or four per cent of production." The barter deal with Penfolds will target customers in Britain

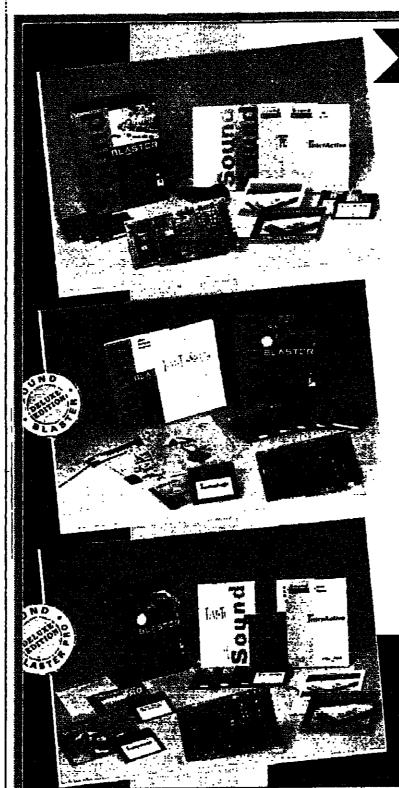
and other European countries. Penfolds Director Michael Paul said he was optimistic about export prospects for Moldovan

But he cautioned that rapidly rising prices and a tumbling currency — consumer prices rose 269 per cent in the first half of 1993 meant spending plans had to be revised frequently.

Moldova charged 25 roubles for a kilo (2.2 lb) of grapes last year and was talking about charging 250 roubles this year. although the lower rouble means it is hard to compare the two

"Pricing is still the main prob-lem," Mr. Paul said. "If we cannot agree a price for the grapes. then we cannot sell the wine. Obviously we are aware of the enormous impact Eastern Europe has already had, particularly in Britain, and we also realise Moldova can be a major source of

But he said some investment was still needed to buy more equipment to make Moldovan wine acceptable to western mar-



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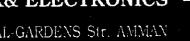
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## U.S. Fed intervention catches dealers long and wrong

LONDON (R) — The yen remained well below its recent highs at a tense European midsession Friday as investors licked their wounds after Thursday's shock intervention by the U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed).

Dealers said many players had been brought to their knees by the central bank's surprise support for the dollar which caught them all "long and wrong." However, the heavy demand for yen seen from Japanese exporters in Tokyo Friday suggested further intervention would be needed to boost the dollar.

"Given the speed with which Tokyo stripped away some of the dollars' gains this morning, the Fed will need to keep its foot on the market's neck by intervening again today," said Howard Archer, head of research at Natwest Bank.

By 1130 GMT the yen was sitting nervously at 105.05 per dollar, up from its 104.45 finish in Tokyo but below a 106.75 peak and 105.80 close in New York Thursday.

The reversal in the yen's fortunes was all the more dramatic since it had reached 101.00 per dollar just before the Fed intervened. "The intervention caught the market off guard and gave the dollar the breathing space it needed," said Martin Kay, senior dealer at U.S investment bank Lehman Brothers.

"People are not totally convinced the dollar is going higher now but are reluctant to sell it because of the invervention risk."

The impact of the Fed action was all the greater since it was accompanied by a change in tack by U.S. Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers, who declared the U.S. was concerned by the rapid rise of the yen. Previously Mr. Summers had been outspoken in his support for a higher yen.

"It could be the intervention was a signal from the U.S. of its willingness to respond to serious efforts by Japan to tackle its trade surplus," said Mr. Archer

"It that is the case, then we could see the Fed intervene intermittently from now on until the Japanese come up with the goods on trade." Mr. Archer added. in a statement.

## Strong yen hightens inflation fears in Asia

TOKYO (R) — Asia fears a dose of inflation as prices of Japanese cars and other imports rise due to the strength of the yen, analysts said Friday.

But Asian goods will be cheaper for Japanese consumers and have brighter prospects for piercing Japan's borders.

The yen shot up to a post-World War II high of around 100 to the dollar last week, from 127 in August last year.

In Kuala Lumpur, the deputy governor of the central bank, Bank Negara, said Malaysians should try to buy non-Japanese products to offset the impact of the strong yen.

"People must substitute if Japanese goods are expensive," deputy governor Lin See Yan

But economists said Malaysia consumers would not easily switch to other brands because Japanese products, ranging from electronics to cars, had a firm grip on the local market.

will buy Fisher-price Inc. in a \$1 billion deal that will make the

famed maker of Barbie dolls surpass

Hasbro Inc. as the world's biggest

The takeover, in which Mattel

use its stock to pay for Fisher-

Price, was announced by the

It allows Mattel, which concen-

trates on toys for older children,

to acquire the leading maker of

educational playthings for youn-

ger kids, along with gear ranging

from baby rattles to potty seats.

cause each has different markets

and they're not buying competi-tion, they're buying broader share of market," said Robert

McCoy, associate publisher of the

trade magazine Toy and Hobby

concerned, their product lines

now will cover the spectrum.

They will be head-to-head with

the other toymakers," said Mr.

and Fisher-Price will produce a

leading toy company that has the

strongest consumer brands, by

far, in the toy industry," John

Amerman, Mattel's chairman

and chief executive officer, said

"The combination of Mattel

"As far as the mass market is

"This merger is natural be-

companies late Thursday.

toy company.

World.

McCoy.

In the Philippines, Japanese ioint ventures with car makers were hit hard by the rising yen and have asked the government to approve another round of price hikes on vehicles.

Henry Moran, president of the Automotive Manufacturers Institute in the Philippines, said production costs had risen over the past months because of the surging yen.

Even when the dollar was worth 109 yen, a five to 10 per cent price increase was needed for car makers to break even, Mr. Moran said.

In Sri Lanka, a spokesman for Associated Motorways Ltd., local agents for Nissan vehicles, said sales had fallen by about 30 per cent in the past few months.

Toy makers Mattel, Fisher-Price

announce \$1 billion merger deal

share they own.

of \$1.85 billion.

die-cast vehicles.

and older.

"Cars have gone up in some cases by 75 per cent in the past year and spares are also costly. Due to the high cost of vehicles, the corporate sector is also reviewing plans it would have had to purchase vehicles," he said.

shareholders would get 1.275

shares of Mattel stock for each

Fisher-Price, based in East Au-

rora, N.Y. employs about 5,600

people and reported 1992 profits

\$694 million. Mattel is headquar-

tered in El Segundo, Calif., em-

ployed about 15,000 and earned \$155 million in 1992 on revenue

Based on those sales figures,

the combination would eclipse

Pawtucket, R.I.-based Hasbro

with 1992 sales of about \$2.14

Hasbro offers a full line of

products, including Gi Joe and

other action figures. Its products

range from infant toys to preteen.

tel will now play in the same

Beyond its well-known Bar-

bies, Mattel hottest sellers are

Disney products, a collection of

plush toys and fashion dolls, and

hot wheels, which are minature

Fisher-Price plays to a younger

audience. Its products include

dinoroars, plush neon-coloured

dinosaurs, and radio control rac-

er, a radio-controlled car for ages

It has been recovering in recent at \$23,871/2.

of \$41.3 million on revenue of

Pakistan factories, depending also suffer. on Japanese machinery and spare parts, are also feeling the pinch as Japanese parts and some consumprices go up.

"The strengthening of the yen has sharply raised the prices of Japanese cars," Pakistani car dealer Farrukh Razzak said. "The prices of cars from other countries are also rising in sympathy with the yen.'

Hong Kong also will likely suf-fer higher inflation as the strong yen pushes up prices of Japanese electronic goods and raw materials, local economists said. Benjamin Chan, economist with Bank of East Asia, said:

deficit with Japan will not improve too much and import inflation will increase." Edward Wong, associate director of Wardley Investment Services, said Japanese exporters might discount goods to compen-

sate buyers for the strong yen to

venture into toys for older chil-

dren that was spurred by Quaker

Oats, its former parent company.

recorder, had high-tech features

Mounting losses at Fisher-Price prompted Chicago-based Quaker

Oats to spin Fisher-Price to

shareholders in mid-1991. In the

last 18 months before the spinoff,

Fisher-Price lost about \$70 mil-

Returning to its roots, Fisher-

Price again prospered. In 1992, its first full year as an indepen-

dent company, it earned \$41.3 million, double its 1991 earnings.

bining the companies' interna-

tional marketing and distribution

"tremendous opportunity" to

further the growth of Fisher-

Mattel and Fisher-Price said

they expect the merger to be

completed by Dec. 1, subject to

shareholder and government

announced after the close of trad-

ing on the New York Stock Ex-

change. Mattebshares closed un-

changed at \$25.621/2 and Fisher-

Price shares were also unchanged

Thursday's deal was

Mr. Amerman said that com-

and high prices that bombed.

The toys, such as a kids video

Taiwan and South Korea will

maintain market share.

In the stock swap, Fisher-Price years from a highly unsuccessful

offerings, Mr. McCoy said. Mat- networks would provide a

Price's sales.

We, can expect that our trade

"It makes tourism in Australia even cheaper than it was before," said Godfrey Santer, manager of corporate planning services at the Australian Tourism Commission, a government body. "It certainly will be an extra incentive."

"Taiwan's heavy reliance on

er products is not going to fall in the foreseeable future, so the

surge in the yen will definitely

hurt our importers," said Jospeh

Chen, deputy secretary-general of the Chinese National Federa-

tion of Industries, a business

But on the positive side, the

soaring yen is expected to boost

Japanese tourism to Asia and

for Japanese tourists, expects a

fresh wave of yen-rich tourists to

shop in Sydney and visit Austra-

lia's resorts, tourism officials

Australia, a prime destination

exports to Japan.

## Yugoslavian dinar sinks to 105 million per dollar

BELGRADE (AP) — Beset by average monthly salary for those ing skyrocketing inflation, the announced a sharp devaluation of

the national currency. One U.S. dollar will now officially be worth 105 million dinars, Federal Premier Radoje Kontic announced in Belgrade. The previous rate was 49 million dinars to

With hyperinflation surging at more than 15 per cent a day, black market currency dealers already are offering 152 million

dinars for one dollar in the street. Support for rebel Serbs in Croatia and Bosnia severely damaged the Yugoslav economy and strict international sanctions imposed in May 1992 have brought the country's economy to the brink of collapse.

More than half of the workforce has been idled and the

crippling economic woes, includ-still working has dropped to \$20. Fearing social unrest, Yugoslav Yugoslav government has authorities have indiscriminately printed money, further fueling inflation.

Mr.Kontic expressed hope that "hyperinflation will (in the future) by suppressed to the level of high inflation," or a projected 50 per cent per month.

The government has made a number of appeals to the United Nations to lift or at least ease the sanctions.

"Hyperinflation is leading us into African-style poverty and hunger," declared Vojislav Kostunica, leader of the opposition Democratic Party of Serbia.

Speaking in a radio interview Mr. Kostunica demanded an immediate stop to the printing of money and a freeze on prices and

## Pakistani landowners outraged by wide-ranging economic reforms

government.

KARACHI (Agencies) — Pakistan's feudal landowners reacted with anger Friday at wide-ranging economic reforms introduced by the country's interim government that will raise prices and impose taxes on wealthy farmers.

But some business leaders and the main opposition group led by former premier-Benazir Bhutto backed the bold reforms planned by caretaker Prime Minister Moeen Qureshi just seven weeks before the end of his three-month

The 63-year-old former World Bank official Thursday announced hikes in the prices of wheat and edible oils, saying that the tough steps were necessary as the country was drifting into "financial insolvency."

Mr. Qureshi, who has spent 30 years working with developing economies, announced a new federal wealth tax and provincial income tax on holdings of more than 60 acres (25 hectares) of irrigated land.

The government is expected to collect at least two billion rupees (nearly \$70 million) through the agricultural income tax.

He also raised tariffs on elec-. tricity and gas and vowed harsh penalties against those evading tax or public utility dues. The Pakistan Muslim League (PML) of former premier Nawaz

Eiaz Shafi, chairman of the

Mr. Qureshi's economic package, calling it "a transgression of the mandate given to the caretaker Observers said by imposing tax

Analysts said the reforms are similar to aid conditions insisted on by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, which have been calling on Pakistan to slash its ballooning budget deficit and have said they will back the reforms with considerable re-

A PML spokesman said Mr. Qureshi's reforms would increase the prices of essential food items, "depriving the poor of their bread." The interim government should concentrate on its job of holding "free and fair elections in October," he said.

Mr. Sharif's party is strong in the populous province of Punjab, home to many affluent landlords. Mrs. Bhutto, Mr. Sharif's main

political rival and also a member of the landed aristocracy, was reported to have supported the economic reforms at a meeting Thursday with Mr. Qureshi in Islamabad. While several industrialists and

businessmen described the package as too ambitious, others said they thought the measures were essential to revive the beleaguered

farm income as a bold step. Farming contributes about a third of Pakistan's gross national product.

on the agriculture sector, Mr. Qureshi has fulfiled a long standing demand that governments had avoided dealing with because of the powerful landowning lob-

"No political government could have done this under normal circumstances," a businessman in Islamabad said.

Nöted analyst Sultan Ahmad writing in the Dawn newspaper said: "The country should avail the services of a competent visiting surgeon for the operation it desperately needs." Otherwise "it will have to wait

for the return of the family doctor with his slow ways of curing which in the process multiplies the ailments.'

Mr. Qureshi became head of a caretaker government on July 18 after former president Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Mr. Sharif resigned after several months of political bickering that had brought the government to a halt.

The interim premier also promised a social security scheme for the poor and stringent measures to curb tax evasion and corruption among government officials, Association of Industry, welparticularly income tax collec-

## Poverty makes dramatic decline in East Asia

WASHINGTON (AFP) Poverty has dramatically declined in East Asia over the last two decades, but some 180 million people remain in absolute poverty with income of less than a dollar per day, the World Bank has said.

About 10 per cent of East Asians live in poverty compared with 23 per cent in 1980 and 35 per cent in 1970, despite a 40 per

cent increase in the region's population over the two decades, he bank said in a report. China and Indonesia, the two most populous countries in the region, made the largest strides in

reducing poverty, the report said. The percentage of people in poverty in China declined from 33 per cent in 1970 to 10 per cent in 1990, while the poverty rate in Indonesia fell from 60 per cent to 15 per cent in the period.

As a result of strong economic growth. South Korea and Malaysia have come close to eliminating absolute poverty, which is defined by the bank as income of less than one dollar per day per

The poverty rate in South Korea fell from 23 per cent in 1970 to five per cent in 1990 and in Malaysia it fell from 18 per cent to two per cent, the bank

"Poverty has been reduced substantially, but there is no room for complacency," said bank vice president Gautam Kaji. An estimated 180 million remain poor in East Asia — about equal the number of poor in sub-Saharan Africa.

"And the poverty that remains is the more intractable kind, found in pockets thus far bypassed by the general growth and social programmes that have raised others out of poverty," he pointed out.

Nearly nine out of 10 in poverty in the region live in rural areas. the report said, with women and children most severely affected.

The report said the poverty rate in the Philippines declined from 35 per cent to 21 per cent over the 20-year period, and fell in Thailand from 26 per cent to 16.

## Philippine budget faces grim prospects

MANILA (R) — The Philippine government hopes to kickstart the economy with bigger spending in its 1994 budget, to be presented to congress next week, but there are serious doubts it can raise enough revenue to pay for its spending.

President Fidel Ramos and his cabinet earlier this month approved a budget of 362 billion pesos (\$12.9 billion), 10 per cent higher than the current budget of

328.9 billion (\$11.7 billion). Under the proposal, only 344.8 billion pesos (\$12.3 billion) will be disbursed in 1994, and revenues will total 319.2 billion

pesos (\$11.4 billion), resulting in a budget deficit of 25.6 billion pesos (\$900 million). revenues are to come from new tax measures which congress has yet to pass.

"This budget is a concrete manifestation of the country's decisive thrust towards economic transformation," Budget Secretary Salvador Enriquez said

Priority areas include energy, housing, health and education, countryside and infrastructure

But questions remain as to whether the government can generate the funds for development, since around 40 billion pesos (\$1.4 billion) of projected

Government is also eyeing foreign and local borrowings of 52.2 billion pesos (\$2.2 billion) to support 1994 expenditures.

Mr. Ramos has urged congress to pass a tax package to lift the economy and enable it to compete with its Asian neighbours. But many legislators have

balked at the idea of passing new tax measures, saying the govern-ment can raise the needed revenues if tax collection is im-

" ais budget is prudent tax measures which congress has enough in view of the fact that revenue projections are soft, Mr. Enriquez said, hinting the government might have to resort to spending cuts next year if the projected revenues do not mater-

> Francis Lugue, economist at Philippine Asia Equity Securities Inc., said revenues would remain

"Considering that congress has been deferring passing new revenue measures, I doubt if the deficit would be licked at the rate it ought to be licked," he said.

#### Sharif immediately lashed out at comed the imposition of tax on De Larosiere elected new EBRD head

LONDON (AFP) - Jacques de Larosiere, the governor of the Bank of France, has been electedpresident of the beleaguered European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

bank officials said. Mr. De Larosiere, 63, a former managing director of the International Monetary Fund, replaces founding EBRD president Jacques Attali, who resigned in mid-July after press attacks on his lavish lifestyle and an internal audit committee report which sharply criticised the bank's spending.

De Larosiere's main rival for the job, but he withdrew his candidacy Monday.

The EBRD said Mr. De Larosiere was elected to a four-year mandate by 58 of the bank's 59 governors, one having abstained. abstaining vote came from the

Italian member.

Reliable sources said that the Mr. De Larosiere's election

became a foregone conclusion Tuesday when former Polish finance minister Leszek Balcerowicz withdrew his candidacy to emerging market economies of eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Last year the EBRD backed 54 projects representing a total investment of 1.3 billion ECUs (\$1.15 billion). Its remit covers loans, opening

credit lines and investing in banks and companies, predominantly those concerned with infrastructure developments.

Mr. De Larosiere had the

65 Nç-ng

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2 Mystery Gardner 3 Moiety

Oboe, e.g.

34 Hide 36 Paint

unit: 37 Metric meas.

Former Italian premier head the bank, set up in 1991 to which hold 50 per cent of the Giuliano Amato had been Mr. make investments in the newly share capital in the bank, as we as the European Community. The voting for the post, done

by postal ballot, went to the 59 countries and institutions running the bank, with the winning candidate needing the support of a majority of the bank governors In a statement, the head of the EBRD board of governors, Anne

Wibble, the Swedish finance minister, said Mr. De Larosiere's distinguished professional record makes him particularly sui! backing of the Group of Seven of able to lead the bank in the most industrialised nations.

#### **Peanuts**







## **Andy Capp**





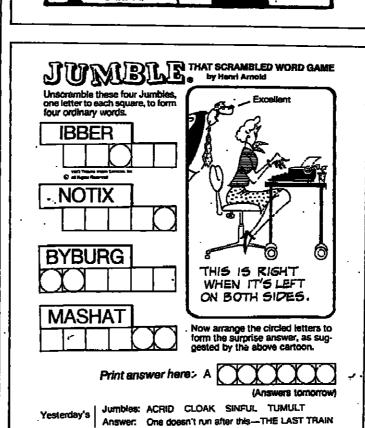
### **Mutt'n'Jeff**





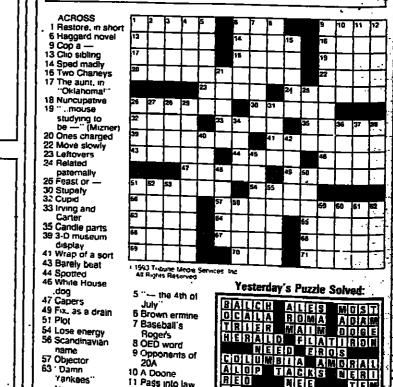


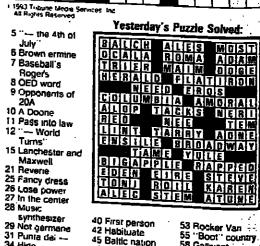




## Horoscope not received

THE Daily Crossword by Al Becker





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amman firancial market MOUSING BANK CENTER ANNAH - BENEZISAN: TELEPHONE: 660116 / 643170

CACAMITED HARRY TRADING ACTIVITY FOR THE MERIOD (14/08/1991 - 18/88/1991)

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	COMPANY 7 NAME				
	- ANT	TRADISO	22.72		
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		35	PHICE		
-	JORDAN MATICIAL MANY	468.886		-	
ı	- TANK OF JOHNSH	668,833 353.876	3.769	174.500	147.060
1	MINDLE CAST INVESTMENT	60,477	4.520	4.450	4.330
		147,859	1.199	2.185	J.010
1	THE ROUSING BANK SORDLE KURAIT BANK	402.117 343,539	4.110	6-335	4.226
1	AND JOSEPH THEFT	468,341	1.050	3.326	3.250
1		:33.815			4-616
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ł		21,409 23,441	6.707 4.580	4.756	6.4GB
ł	ARAS BANKES COMPONENTS	482,301	2.490	1,945	1.040
1					
ł	ARABIAN SEAS INSURANCE PEROSALEM INSURANCE	254,342 40,017 21,000	2.450	2.872	2.710
	PERSONAL PRESIDENCE	21,000	4.138	4.200	4.298
	UMIVERSAL VANDALINA	103,763	1,678	3.926	3.7+6
	TARMOUN INSURANCE & REINBURANCE	11,374	3.328	3.500	3.300
J	ARAB LIFE & ACCIDENCE AND	J,630	3.250	3.698	3.096
١	JORDAN CULF INSURANCE FOREN	179,985		1.350	3.380
ı	AMAID DISTRICT PROCESSOR	240,783	2.306	2.420	2.320
]	MANG INTERNATIONAL HERES	2,230 11[,211	2.340 4.340		
1	JORDAN PATIONAL BRIDDING LINES JORDAN TOURISM & SPA CONGLES	4,865	1.990	3.050	1.270
ı	PORTON PORTON IO APPROVACE	3,695 225,472	0-220		
ı	JOHN CO PARTY LAVESTREET	26,965			1.760
1	JORDAN GULF REAL ISTATE INVESTMENT PITRA ENTRYPHISE I EQUIPMENTA LEASING JORDAN INTERNATIONAL	34,310	0.750	0.716	0.738
ı			1.150		
N	JORDAN PRISS FOUNDATION / ALBA-:				
١	CONTRACT PRESS & POSSESSET NO. 14 h Auto-	7,279 274,972	2.406	25.374 24.460	20.100 9.350
1	""+120 RIDDLE FAST & COMMONOR		7.146	1.363	
I	JORDAN TORACCO & CICARCITES		7,400	2.736	2.650
1	ATTANDEED CORST. HATERIAL HAMEFALTHOUGH	42.075	25.500 2.230		
1	THE JORDAN CONDIT FACTORIES JORDAN PHOSPHATE RIFES	1,628,046	2.720	2.460	7.610
١	THE ARAB POTASK		4.160		
ı	Jorgan Petrolium Repinary Jorgan Tambing	34,201		10.150	
ł	POOLEDMANDUSTRIES .	4,746			
1	THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL	1,370 433,619			2.710 E.910
I	THE JORDAN WORSTED HILLS ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING	200,741	12.070	11.477	19.300
ĺ	PORTION CONTROL INDUSTRIES	7,261,663 17, <b>86</b> 1	7.705		
ł	JORDAN DAINY THE JORDAN PIPES MANUFACTURING	151,574	2.512	2.510	3.163
	JORDAN PAPER & CARDBOAKD FACTORIES	141,165			
I	THE PUBLIC HIMING	1, <b>8</b> 54 2,248			
J	ARAB CHEMICAL DETERGENTS INDUSTRIES SPINNING & WEAVING	37,0;4	18.963	18.900	18.550
١	JORDAN CLASS INDUSTRIES		2.952		
ł	DAR AL DAWN DEVELOPREME & SPUEDTREME	591,228			
ı	ARAB INVESTMENT & INTRINSTICUAL TRACE	78,331			2.580
L	ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & THATING	\$28,833 144,255	1.790		9.145 1.780
,	JORDAN HEDICAL CORPORATION . MATICHAL STEEL INDUSTRY	3,196	5.390	0.409	0.170
ł	FATIONAL INSUSTRIES	101,271			5.138
j	· INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CERNICAL INDUSTRIES	50,755			
I	JORDAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRICA JORDAN ROCKMOOL INDUSTRICS	19,425	6.700	4.400	6.100
I	Driversal Chemical Industries	40,757 67,5 <del>9</del> 0	2.770 5.030	3,240 8,100	
ı	ALADDIN INDUSTRIES	3,315			4.700
I	JORDAN INDUSTRIES & MATCH/JINCO JORDAN PRECAST CONCRETE INDUSTRY				1.270
1	MATIONAL CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING	33,293 208,337			3.800
1	JORDAN SULPHO-CKERICALS	123,247	1.780	3.300	1.650
1	arab center for Phabm. 5 Chemicals "Jordan Kirait co. For Agri. 1 17000 1800.	327,166	3.770 1.780		
ĺ	EAPTHER INVESTMENT	4,103	3.008	3.000	2.850
ı	UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES				5.580
1	GRAND TOTAL	13.626.841			

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GRAND TOTAL 13,616,841 PARALLEL MARKET TRADING ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIOD (14/00/1993 - 18/08/1993)

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PREV. CLOSING PRICE	PRICE	CLOSING PRICE			
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**Financial** Markets

Jordan Times

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Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

	Date: 14 1 1945	
Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6410	6.8936
Sterling Pound	1.0434	1.0486
Deutsche Mark	5.4105	0.410:
Swiss Franc	2.4544	J.4557
French Franc	C.1168	0.:174
Japanese Ven	J. 2767	0.5801
Dutch Guilder	0.3444	0.3657
Swedish Krona	3.0678	0.0852
Italian Lira	6.0432	0.0434
Belgian Franc	\$ 6161948	0.41458

Other Currencies	Date: 19:5 1993	
Currency	Hid	Offer
Bahraini Dinor	1.8104	1.8400
Lehanese Lira	0.03945	0.04045
Saudi Risal	C.1840	6.1860
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2550	2.3200
Qatari Riyal	0.1873	0.1890
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2250
Omani Riyal	1.7600	1.8180
UAE Dirlam	C.1873 ·	0.1890
Greek Drachma	0.2875	0.3350
Cyprist Pound	1.3350	1.3650

### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Friday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs

1.3152/57 1.6890/00 1.8990/00 1.4860/70 35.45/85 5.8760/60 1595.0/8.0 104.45/55 7.9640/84 7.3105/05

Canadian dollar Deutschemarks Dutch guilders Swiss francs Belgian francs French francs Italian lirc Japanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns Danish crowns

6.8833/03 \$1,5040/50 One ounce of gold \$370,35/370.85

Clinton secures Saudi order for aircraft

SEATTLE (AP) - President Bill Clinton helped the Boeing Company and McDonnell Douglas secure a \$6 billion aircraft order from Saudi Arabia's national airline, Senator Patty Murray said.

Ms. Murray, Democrat-Washington, said Wednesday the president spoke with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia on behalf of the companies. She said she received a call from Mr. Clinton on Tuesday telling her the order for both airlines had been secured earlier that day.

Ms. Murray said she did not know how the order would be split, but other congressional sources cited but not named by the Seattle Post-Intelligencer (PI) said Scattle-based Boeing would get most of the order.

The order is believed to be for 59 jets, including six Jumbo jets, 24 medium-range and 29 shortrange jets, the P-1 cited congressional sources as saying.

Boeing spokesman Paul Binder said Wednesday the company would make no announcement. "We do not say anything until the customer does," Mr. Binder

McDonnell Douglas spokesman in St. Louis Don Hanson also said the customer would be expected to make any announce-

## U.S. trade deficit soars to 5-year high

WASHINGTON (AP) - The U.S. merchandise trade deficit soared 44 per cent in June to the highest level in five years, the government said Thursday, prompting a massive effort by the Federal Reserve to prop up the value of the dollar.

The startling trade report, far worse than economists had pre-dicted, sent the value of the U.S. doliar tumbling toward a new post-World War II low against the Japanese yen. To halt the fall, the Federal Reserve intervened in foreign exchange markets by purchasing huge quantities of

"It was heavy and direct intervention and it came in waves," said economist David Jones of Aubrey G. Lanston and Co. brokerage firm, "That means

they mean business." Americans bought more clothing, televisions and computers from abroad in June, widening the deficit to \$12.1 billion, the largest gap since February 1988, the Commerce Department said.

duced by a 3.3 per cent drop in exports to \$37.6 billion and a 5.1 per cent jump in imports to a record \$49.7 billion. Economists said U.S. exports are suffering, primarily because

the severe downturn in western

The deterioration was pro-

Europe's economy has depressed demand for U.S. goods. At the same time, American businesses seeking to improve their efficiency in a soft U.S. economy are buying foreign computers and communications

equipment. And U.S. consumers

baven't lost their appetite for

imports, particularly Japanese

cars and electronics. Commerce Secretary Ronald Brown said the report "underscores the impact of slow global growth and the need to pursue export opportunities aggressive-

Mr. Brown said "the Clinton administration places high priority on expanding trade abroad to create economic opportunity here at home." But private economists said there's little the administration can do to head off what likely will be the nation's worst trade performance in at least four

"The message is clear. U.S. exports are doing poorly, to a significant extent because of stagnation and recession in Europe and a slowdown in economic activity in Japan," said economist Allen Sinai of Economic Advisers Inc. "This big deterioration is a sign of a weak economy losing momentum as we move into the third quarter."

He said the June trade number would make the economy's performance look even weaker in the second quarter than the lackiuster 1.6 per cent annual growth rate estimated earlier by the

Commerce Department.

During the 1990-91 recession trade was one of the few bright spots in the U.S. economy, with the deficit falling to \$66.7 billion in 1991 from its peak of \$152.1 billion in 1987. But it climbed back to \$84.5 billion last year and is on track to top \$110 billion this

The trade gap for the first six months of the year, \$56.6 billion

Amman

was 55 per cent bigger than the serve's dollar buying with a state- U.S. deficit with Japan. It same period a year ago.

Starting in February, with comments from Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, the administration sought to improve the deficit by talking down the value of the dollar relative to the yen.

should eventually produce a smaller deficit by making U.S. goods cheaper overseas. But that can backfire. If the dollar were to fall too far or too fast, it could destabilise stock and bond markets in the United States.

The Clinton administration accompanied the Federal Re-

ment indicating it was reversing its stance.

"We are concerned that the recent rapid rise in the value of the Japanese yen could retard growth in the Japanese and world oilar relative to the yen. economies," Treasury Under-In theory, a cheaper dollar secretary Lawrence Summers

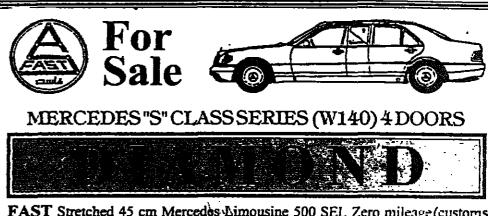
In a separate report Thursday, the Labour Department said firsttime claims for unemployment benefits slipped by 6,000 last. Latin America, especially Mex-week to 325,000 the lowest level ico, and to developing nations since mid-February.

In June, the surge in imports reflected in part an increase in the

jumped 15.5 per cent to \$4.3 pillion and accounted for more

than a third of the total trade gap. After Japan, the biggest deficit was with China, \$2 billion, up 11 per cent from May. The United States ran \$1.7 billion deficit with western Europe in June, compared with a surplus of \$332 million in May.

Sales have been brisker to ico, and to developing nations elsewhere. However in June the U.S. surplus with Mexico fell 49 per cent to \$128 million.



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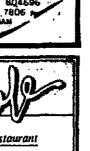
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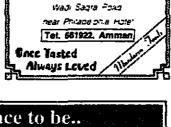
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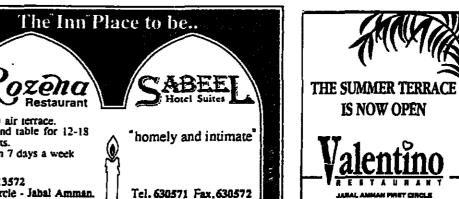
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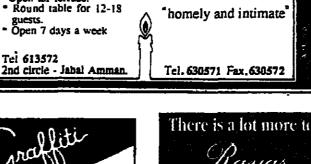
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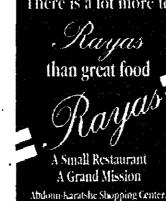
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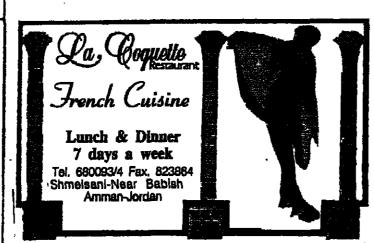


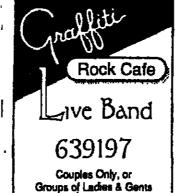




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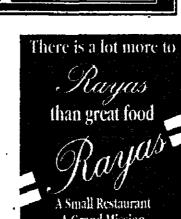


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## Yeltsin urges parliament to call early elections

MOSCOW (Agencies) — President Boris Yeltsin officially asked

The Russian pre the Russian parliament Friday to call early general elections to resolve peacefully a power struggle between his government and the conservative-dominated

The standoff is still paralysing Russia, two years after a failed hardline coup against then-Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Speaking more than four months after a referendum showed most voters backed Mr. Yeltsin and the pro-market reforms introduced since the collapse of the Soviet Union, he said deputies should now go before the voters as soon as possible.

In his message, a copy of which was received by AFP, Mr. Yeltsin called for "rapid" elections, without setting a date. However he has repeatedly said elections should be held in the autumn "whether parliament wants it or

Mr. Yeltsin told the Supreme Soviet, or legislature, that "parliamentary elections are a democratic and peaceful way out" of the political crisis.

He said current members of parliament were legally entitled to run for new terms.

The official call for elections marks the first stage of a "three-month action plan" mapped out by the presidential team to end systematic obstruction by the parliament led by Mr. Yeltsin's main political foe, Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov.

Mr. Khasbulatov, who is working frantically for the political survival of a legislature that came out of the Communist era, last week rejected the idea of early elections.

Mr. Yeltsin knew there was little chance the parliament would agree to resign, but that it would have to act in accordance with the law if he asked for early

"I understand that it is not easy to go before the voters ahead of the end of term but the results of the (April 25) referendum show that voters want this." Mr. Yeltsin told the Supreme Soviet with

ident F.W. De Klerk flies to

South America Sunday for a four-

nation tour, ignoring ANC

charges that he had no right to

represent South Africa abroad

and should stay home to speed

Mr. De. Klerk's visit to Para-

guay, Uruguay. Chile and Argen-

tina is likely to be one of his last

foreign trips as head of the South

African government in the run-up

to all-race elections next April.

He told reporters in Pretoria

this week the trip would focus on

winning new investment and said

it could benefit all South Afri-

the expansion of interaction.

trade, exports and such good business that it could materially

contribute to job creation.

There is tremendous room for

"And I will be looking for new

investments in our country. I

the end of white rule.

The Russian president was implicitly stressing that he personally had had the courage to go to the voters in April, and won not only their support for him but their backing for the "process of social and economic reforms" of his government.

The only concession he made Friday to the legislature was that deputies should "discuss the details of organising these elections.

At stake was "the fate of Rushe said.

"If we pay more attention to Russia's fate and less to our immediate personal interests, we must give the citizens of Russia chance to form a credible leadership without further ado," Mr. Yeltsin added.

The Kremlin views the elections as a crucial step toward adopting a new constitution. The new parliament would be charged with passing the final text, which however would have no chance

before the current legislature. Russian parliamentary speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov meanwhile has told Attorney-General Valentin Stepankov to order the arrest of two top Yeltsin aides on charges of corruption, Interfax

News Agency said. The aides were identified as First Deputy Premier Vladimir Shumeiko and the hear of the Federal Information Office Mikhail Poltoranin, a 'ormer

minister the agency said Mr. Khasbula. ... had put "strong pressure" on !-Stepankov at a meeting h

Thursday. President Yeltsin market ie second anniversary of the fa ed Soviet coup Thursday by urging hard-pressed Russians to defend mated. his reforms against "reactionary

Nelson Mandela's African is widely expected to win, should

"He cannot speak for the peo- said Mr. De Klerk had twice

forces" who hope to turn back the clock. The president promised better times ahead, but some 2,000 to 3,000 Communists and other anti-Yeltsin demonstrators used the occasion to condemn soaring prices, rising crime and the breakup of the Soviet Union.

ANC: De Klerk can't represent S. Africa

National Congress (ANC) is

Mr. De allera should stay nome.

ple of South Africa." ANC

spokesman Carl Niehaus said.

who can speak for the entire

population the better and in this

regard we hope it will be his last

trip as president of South Afri-ca." he said.

multi-party talks about a transi-

tion to democracy at a critical stage, Mr. De Klerk would do

better to stay home and concen-

ment if he stayed here and

pushed for a quick transition," Mr. Niehaus said.

to the democracy talks have agreed that south Africa's first

"He would do more for invest-

A majority of the delegations

trate on the negotiations.

Mr. Niehaus said that with

'The sooner we have a leader

The crowd gathered in the rain in front of the Russian parliament building defended by Mr. Yeltsin and his supporters on Aug. 19-21, 1991, when hardline Communists tried to oust Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Meanwhile, discontent is running so high in the Russian army that the army could turn into a separate political force, a Russian think-tank has warned, adding that troops are deserting in

Poor conditions and loss of job prestige were "driving (the army) to become an autonomous political force," and increasing numbers of officers were attending political demonstrations, according to a report by the Institute for Social and Political Research published Thursday in Izvestia The institute is part of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Many officers no longer received salaries and had lost 70 per cent of their perks such as free housing and medical treatment, an article in Kommersant news-

Only 18,000 of the 62,000 new apartments due to have been built this year for the military had been constructed, at a time when many troops were returning from missions abroad, the institute

It also reported a "disturbing rise in criminality in the army, with up to "three premeditated murders and 10 thefts of arms and ammunition" each day. Suicides had also increased and

accounted for one quarter of all deaths in the army, the report stressed. Each week 120 people desert," the institute said, adding that that a conservative esti-

Russian inherited much of the Red Army after the collapse of the Soviet Union and has been reorganising it and trimming staff. The Defence Ministry hopes to eventually have an army of 1.5 million men — 10 per cent of the Russian population compared with more than four million when the army was part of the old Soviet military.

be held on April 27.

A senior government source

cancelled plans for a South

American tour and felt he could

not afford to renege on the

arrangements for a third time.

be going now," he said.
The source said Mr. De Klerk

had an invitation to visit the

United States later this year and

might visit neighbouring states

before the April election, which

is likely to end his tenure as

Foreign Ministry spokesman Peter Wolfaard said Mr. De

Klerk would take a high-level

business delegation with him Sun-

day, including people with in-

terests in mining, banking, food

production, engineering and con-

struction.

"Frankly, he would rather not

## **NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### Industrialist becomes Georgian premier

MOSCOW (R) - Parliament in the former Soviet Republic of Georgia approved industrialist Otar Patsatsia as the country's new prime minister Friday, journalists in the capital Tbilisi said. Mr. Patsatsia, a paper factory boss who previously headed the administration of the western town of Zugdidi, was approved by 124 votes to 17, with six abstentions, after being nominated by Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze. Georgia, war-torn and suffering a grave economic crisis, was left rudderless when Prime Minister Tengiz Sigua and his government resigned three weeks ago, since when Mr. Shevardnadze has acted as temporary prime min

#### 72 die in China floods

PEKING (AFP) — At least 72 people have died in floods in the autonomous region of Inner Mongolia since mid-July, the Economic Daily said Friday. About 15,000 cattle have perished and more than 100,000 homes have been destroyed following torrential rain in the east off the region in northern China. The floods have caused damages estimated at around \$220 million and affected the livelihood of more than 50,000 people, the newspaper said. Floods throughout China this summer have already claimed at least 700 lives.

#### U.S. driver's beating trial begins

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Photos of a trucker being beaten at the start of the L: 5 Angeles riots clearly show that one of the alleged attackers danc 1 joyfully around the victim's bloody body, prosecutors said Thur lay. Two black men, Damian Williams and Henry Watson, are b ing tried for attempted murder and other felonies. The focus of he case is their alleged beating of white trucker Reginald Denny in the opening hours of the riots April 29, 1992. In his opening arguments at the start of the racially charged trial. prosecutor Lawrence Morrison presented jurors with blown-up photographs of the bloody, videotaped beating which he said showed the two accused kicking and beating Denny. "Mr. Williams hurled the brick. Reginald Denny crumbled and Mr. Williams celebrated. He then danced with glee around Mr. Denny, joyfully cavorting ... over what he had done," Mr. Morrison said. The defence claim Mr. Williams, 20, and Mr. Watson, 28, are innocent and that police arrested the wrong men.

#### Rebels kill 55 indians in Peru

LIMA (AP) — Maoist guerrillas hacked to death 55 native Indian villagers in the central jungle in the past three days, a government official said. Some 200 Shining Path rebels and Indians armed with machetes and spears swept into seven hamlets along the Ene River Valley, 250 miles (370 km) east of Lima, said Lucia Shinsato, head of the Andres Avelino Caceres region. An army official reached by telephone in the jungle city of Satipo, 300 kilometres east of Lima, confirmed the attacks. He said they apparently were in revenge for the Indians' having helped the army track down guerrillas. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said army patrols were searching for the attackers.

#### Conservatives urged to stop drift

LONDON (R) — A leading right-wing Conservative politician opened old wounds in Britain's ruling party Friday with a fresh attack on Prime Minister John Major's leadership. Former cabinet minister Cecil Parkinson urged the government, deeply unpopular among voters and torn by rifts over Europe in the past year, to stop drifting and make painful cuts in public spending. Mr. Parkinson launched his attack, one of the sharpest yet from such a senior Conservative, in the magazine of the right-wing pressure group Conservative Way Forward, chaired by former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. He said the government had been undermined by a year of political unpheavals and must put the past "terrible 12 months" behind it.

### India launches offensive in Kashmir

NEW DELHI (AFP) - India's Border Security Force (BSF) has launched a major offensive in Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh in bid to crush Muslim militant strongholds in the border regions of the two northern states. The Press Trust of India (PTI) said the BSF offensive aimed at preventing the guerrillas from shifting their operational bases from the Kashmir Valley to forests and towns elsewhere. The troops are concentrating mainly in Jammu, Kashmir's Hindu-dominated winter capital, and forests adjoining the city where the Muslim secessionists have reportedly moved in, PTI quoted BSF officials as saying. The drive follows stepped-up attacks on govern ment installatior on the state borders and last Saturday's killing of 16 Hindu bus passengers outside Jammu. The massacre was the first such reported incident in troubled Kashmir.

#### Angolan army pushes towards rebel HQ

LUANDA (R) — The Angolan government said Friday its forces were steadily advancing towards the UNITA rebel headquarters of Huambo and bombing strategic targets in the central highlands. "The Huambo and bombing strategic targets in the central highlands. "The FAA (Angolan Armed Forces) are pursuing their offensive in the direction of Huambo," spokesman Brigadier Jose Manuel "Jota" told reporters in the coastal city of Benguela. He added that the air force was continuing bomb raids, begun earlier this month, on UNITA military targets in the central highland provinces of Huambo and Bie. Gen. Jota gave no more details. Military sources said government troops, which have recaptured several towns between the Atlantic coast and Huambo, were carrying out clean-up operations around Ganda, about 110 kilometres west of Huambo. operations around Ganda, about 110 kilometres west of Huambo

#### 3 hurt in N. Ireland mortar attack

BELFAST (AFP) - At least three people were injured Friday in a mortar attack on the town courts in Newry, in the south of Northern Ireland, police said. One of the mortars, fired from a lorry, exploded close to the court building slightly injuring two policemen and a motorist, initial reports said. The lorry then drove away from the scene. The courts were repaired after being damaged by a recent bomb attack by the Irish Republican Army. In a separate incident overnight in the north of Belfast, three policemen had to be treated for shock after a mortar narrowly missed their patrol car.

## Cambodia coalition gains as guerrillas flee rout

Cambodian government forces Rouge have taken firm control of two said Friday.

In Bangkok, Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan shrugged off the Cambodian government's offer of surrender terms and called for an urgent meeting of the

Hundreds of guerrillas and their followers fled two days of thunderous artillery fire in the northwestern province of Banteay Meanchey to seek refuge in Thailand, but were denied per-mission to cross the border, Thai and U.N. officials said.

The government says it has already disarmed 600 Khmer Rouge fighters and is offering surrender terms to the fugitives.
"We have told them that if they

wish to surrender they should bring all their weapons and a white flag and we will take them to a refugee camp," General Pann Thay, vice chief of staff of the coalition government's unified army, told Reuters.

Asked by reporters for his response to Phnom Penh's surrender offer, Khieu Samphan said this week's fighting in northwestern Cambodia was "minor."

Government fighters took complete control of the village of Phum Chhat, where the Khmer Rouge had an important arms depot, just after dawn Friday, said Eric Falt, spokesman for the U.N. peacekeepers in Cambodia.

They also consolidated their advances in Ampil district further to the north, though pockets of resistance remained.

In the first 36 hours of fighting, coalition gunners fired over 600 mortar and artillery rounds at allegation.

Phorn Chhat, at one stage at a "Not only were they not disrate of 40 a minute, U.N.

peacekeepers reported. Mr. Falt said the attackers at Phum Chhat were mainly former

PHNOM PENH (Agencies) - long-time ally of the Khmer

This week's offensive is the Khmer Rouge base areas in the first big action by the unified northwest and overrun some army formed after U.N.-run elecguerrilla positions in the centre of tions in May from fighters of the the country, the United Nations former Vietnamese-installed government, the KPNLF, and another former Khmer Rouge

It comes in response to a wide-

spread campaign of violence by the Khmer Rouge, murderous revolutionary rulers of Cambodia in the 1970s, who boycotted the elections but still demand representation in the new government. Khieu Samphan, believed by Cambodia experts still to report to infamous revolutionary leader Pol Pot, repeated the Khmer Rouge request for a government role after meeting Thai Foreign

Minister Prasong Soonsiri in Bangkok Friday. Phnom Penh officials say it is too early for talks with the guerrilla group, whose inclusion in

government could spell a still-birth in Western reconstruction aid to Cambodia. The government says the guer-

rilles must give up their zones and submit to the control of the united army.

Meanwhile the government

forces general who captured the Khmer Rouge's second headquarters in northwest Cambodia said Friday he arrived in the town to find it completely evacuated of people and weapons.

"The Thais provided trucks to evacuate the people," General Khoun Rouen, commander of Division 11 of the fc. mer Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) told AFP. "They took 400 soldiers and 1,000 peo-

In' Phnom Penh, a wellinformed source who asked not to be identified confirmed the

armed, as per the Cambodians' request, they were apparently trucked by the Thai military to Pailin," he said, referring to the fighters of the Khmer People's faction's primary headquarters in National Liberation Front, a western Cambodia

## Armenia, Azerbaijan agree enforcing ceasefire is vital

MOSCOW (AFP) - The leaders Wednesday of the Azerbaijani of Armenia and Azerbaijan have | border town of Dzherbail. talked by telephone about enforc- Mr. Ter-Petrossian and Mr. mg the ceasefire undermined by Aliyev recognised the importance continued clashes in the disputed of establishing a dialogue beenclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, tween the separatists and Azerws Agency said haijani anti Friday.

Ter-Petrossian and Acting Azerbaijani President Geidar Aliyev stressed during a telephone conversation late Thursday the vital Security and Cooperation in importance of the ceasefire in the Europe meeting in Rome.

enclave, the agency said, Signed Wednesday to cover an initial five-day period, the ceasefire was marred by fighting Armenian "aggression" in the around the border region of Fizuli south of Nagorno-Karabakh its border, and calling for an and by what Azerbaijan described as the capture by Arme-

to further such contacts, the Armenian President Levon Armenian president's press service said.

The ceasefire was called by Earlier Thursday Iran seemed

poised to end its neutrality in the conflict, strongly condemning breakaway enclave, which is near "immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Armenian forces nian separatists overnight from occupied Azen territories."

## Senator predicts end of U.S. Vietnam embargo

HANOI (R) — A senior U.S. Vietnam, developing its Comsenator predicted Friday that munist economy along market U.S. President Bill clinton would lines, is eager for the ban or trade lift the U.S. economic embargo and economic relations to be against Vietnam by the end of this year.

"I believe that the embargo will be lifted sometime between the middle of September and the end of the year," Senator charles Robb told reporters

Sen. Robb, who carries political weight as chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs, was the first senior U.S. visitor to Hanoi to predict a timeframe for an end to the embargo.

lifted, and U.S. companies want to do business here.

But Mr. Clinton is under pressure to maintain the sanctions from conservative Americans, and especially groups representing Vietnam war veterans and families of U.S. servicemen listed as missing in action (MIA). Sen. Robb said all leaders of

the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to whom he had talked and business interests in the region wanted to "move forward" on the issue.

## Michael Jordan blasts coverage of father's death

RALEIGH, North Carolina (AP) — Michael Jordan thanked supporters for their sympathy following his father's slaying and criticised some media speculation that the death might be linked with shady business deals or his own gambling.

The many kind words and thoughtful prayers have lifted our spirits through difficult times,"
the professional basketball star said in a statement issued by his Washington lawyer, David Falk. "I also want to express my appreciation to the local, state and federal law enforcement officers for their efforts.'

Jordan said he always believed that James Jordan's death was a random act of violence and rebuked news reports that it might be connected with family mis-

"I was outraged when this speculation continued even after the arrests of the alleged murderers." Jordan said. "These totally unsubstantiated reports reflect a complete lack of sensitivity to

Authorities have charged two

basic human decency."

Jordan's death, saying the two planned to rob someone and Jordan stumbled into their path. He was shot to death after

stopping his Lexus on a state highway to rest early on July 23 during a trip to Charlotte. When James Jordan was mur-dered, I lost my dad," Jordan

said. "I also lost by best friend. I am trying to deal with the overwhelming feelings of loss and grief in a way that would make my dad proud.

"I simply cannot comprehend how others could intentionally pour sait in my open wound by insinuating that faults and mistakes in my life are in some way connected to my father's death."

Jordan said most news accounts have been fair. "Unfortunately, a few engaged in baseless speculation and sensationalhe added.

Meanwhile an attorney for one of the men accused of killing Michael Jordan's father says he

has new information that shows the two suspects are innocent. Hugh Rogers, the attorney representing 18-year-old Demery, said information he received Thursday suggests that someone else killed James Jordan, the

His client and Green "wandered upon a car with a body in it," Mr. Rogers said. He declined to give further details.

Charlotte Observer reported Fri-

"There was pressure on law enforcement to solve this thing and solve it quick," Mr. Rogers said. "... Whether they were overzealous and arrested the wrong folks is something to be deter-

Mr. Rogers' statement was contradicted by Jim Coman, director of the State Bureau of Investigation.

"We've got the right people," Mr. Coman said. "... There's not any indication that anyone other than Demerey and Green were actually involved in the shoot-

Authorities are performing bal-

listic tests on a .38 caliber handgun believed to be the murder weapon that could link the two suspects to the killing. Results of the tests are expected next week. Thomas Lusby, the FBI's assistant agent in charge of North Carolina, said there is more evi-

dence than just the gun to link

Green and Demery to the shoot-

Authorities have charged De-mery, of Rowland, North Carolina, and Green of Lumberton, North Carolina, with first-degree murder in James Jordan's death. Demery and Green could face the death penalty.

Mr. Rogers said he may ask that his client's trial be moved hundreds of miles (kilometres) away to western North Carolina, where potential jurors would have fewer ties to the Jordan family. Michael Jordan attended his school in Wilmington, on the North Carolina coast.

"I'm looking at somewhere between Asheville and the Tennessee line," Mr. Rogers said Thurs-

#### Boy, 13, heads for Oxford University

LONDON (R) - A 13-year-old British boy is heading for Oxford University after passing his final school examinations in basely and chemistry with top grades. Adam Dent, who has been edncated by his mother for the past four years, received the results from his A levels Thursday. The exams were straightforward.
There was nothing too tracky, Dent told newspapers. Dent now has to wait for the result next week of a less strenuous exammation in English to secure his place at the prestigious university, where he will study chemistry. A levels are normally taken by children leaving school at the age of 17 or 18.

#### Eastwood, companion have baby girl

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — A baby girl has been born to movie star Clint Eastwood and his actress companion Frances Fisher, tress companion Frances Fisher, a hospital spokeswoman said Thursday. The healthy haby was born at the Mercy Medical Centre in Redding, California, on Aug. 7 but the birth was kept secret until now to protect the couple's privacy, said Sharon Abersold, nursing supervisor at the Catholic hospital. Eastwood, 63, the tough hero in a string of 63, the tough hero in a string of cowboy and detective films, stars in the current hit movie In The Line Of Fire. Eastwood and Fisher, who are not married, have made no secret of their romance or of the 41 year-old actress's pregnance incy have called the girl Francesca Ruth Fisher Eastwood. Eastwood has two children, Kyle, 24, and Allison, 19, from his marriage to actress Maggie Johnson. The

#### Land-scarce China builds high-rise crypts

PEKING (R) — A land-scarce Chinese town is offering peasants a low-cost way of getting a little closer to heaven — high-rise towers for their cremated remains. The first crypt is going up in the eastern coastal town of Shenhu, where 60,000 graves have been dug up since 1988 to reclaim valuable farmland, Xinhua News Agency said Friday. The cemetery, a seven storey building in a garden setting, is part of a local campaign to break the peasant's age-old preference for burial. which has taken large amounts of farmland out of production. The ompetition for space between the living and the dead has become acute," Shenhu town administrator Yan Chengcan said. For centuries Chinese peasants have buried their dead in elaborate and expensive rituals, using ap scarce land and often leaving families deep in debt. Cremation and intermment in the tower will cost about \$100. A traditional funeral can cost as much as \$25,000. Yet, ornate tombs dotting the landscape have become larger in recent years as farmers enriched by market reforms have poured their prosperity into their own posterity. The government officially favours cremation and has waged frequent campaigns against burial and fancy funerals.

#### Teen-age girls have highest rate of gonorrhea in U.S.

ATLANTA (AP) — Teenag girls have the country's highest rate of gonorrhea infection — a startling 22 times higher than women 30 and older. And teenage boys aren't far behind, federal health officials reported Thursday. They warned that gonor-rhea, which could signal possible AIDS infection, also could make teenagers more vulnerable to AIDS even if they haven't yet been exposed to that deadly disease. "We need people to say, what the heck is going on here" said Dr. Stuart Berman of the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. Gonorthea is one of the nation's most prevalent sexually transmitted diseases. About 544,000 cases were diagnosed in 1991, a third of them in teensigers. It is curable but can cause infertility, heart and joint prob-lems if not caught early. About half those infected with gonor. thea don't experience symptoms, which can include pain and discharge.

#### S. Africa reports record jewel theft

JOHANNESBURG (AP) - After months of futile searching, police have appealed for public help in solving what they call the biggest jewel theft in the country's history. Two antique gold necklaces valued at 4 million rand (\$1.18 million) were stolen from the owner's apartment in the seedy Hillborw district in May, police warrant officer Andy Pieke said Tuesday. The jewels, family heirlooms, date back to 1864 and were not insured, he said. "These two items of jewelry are believed to be the most expensive ever stolen in the history of South Africa," Officer Pieke said.

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TORONTO (Agencies) — Frenchwomen scored a couple of upsets in the \$750,000 Canadian Open Thursday when unseeded Julie Halard ousted third seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina and 12th seed Nathalie Tauziat beat fifth-seeded Czech Jana Novoma. Halard beat Sabatini 6-4 4-6 7-6 (7-3) and Tauziat defeated Novotna 2-6 6-4 6-3.

With top-seeded Steffi Graf having the day off, second seed Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain, fourth seed Mary Joe Fernandez of the United States and sixth-seeded American Jennifer Capriati all advanced to the quarter-finals.

The free-swinging 22-year-old Halard changed her tactics after not winning a set in four previous matches with the 23-year-old

Argentine.
"I just had to do something different," said the 42nd-ranked Halard. "The last time I tried to hit hard on every ball and she liked that. So this time, I played some soft shots and then when I got an easy one, I'd go for it."

Halard controlled most points with bold shot-making as Sabatim played inconsistently and was unable to sustain a high standard of play and intensity. The number six-ranked Argentine saved a match point trailing 4-5

in the third set, but was unable to surmount a 0-4 deficit in the tiebreak that ultimately decided the outcome of the two hour, 39 minute third-round match.

"I'm very up and down," said Halard, who ranked as high as number 18 in 1991. "It's all about what goes on my head, sometimes! just explode."

Halard will need to maintain her cool in the quarter-finals against Capriati, a convincing 6-0 6-2 winner over 11th-seeded Amanda Coetzer of South Africa. Capriati won their three previous meetings. Tauziat attributed her victory over Novotna to a conscious effort she has made over the past few months to play more aggressively and

Defending champ Sampras survives: In Indianapolis, defending two-time champion Pete Sampras survived a stiff challenge in beating from Jonathan Stark 5-7, 7-6 (7-2), 6-3 Thursday in the third round of the U.S. Hardcourts.

The victory allowed Sampras to keep alive his battle with Jim Courier for the world's No. 1 ranking heading into the U.S. Open. Courier, ranked No. 2 and seeded second for the tournament at the Indianapolis Tennis Centre, defeating Tomas Carbonell off Spain 6-2, 6-1 in a third-round match.

Qualifier Jimmy Arias lost five match points before defeating No. 4 Goran Ivanisevic 3-6, 6-4, 6-4. Arias, ranked 244th in the world, lost three match points on his serve in the ninth game nd then double faulted before losing the game. He won the first three points of the final game, lost the next two and got the victory when Ivanisevic, No. 10 in the latest tour rankings, double faulted for the 14th time. 'At triple match point, I chocked so bad it was disgusting," said

Arias, who finds himself in the quarterfinals of a tournament after not playing inone since April. "My mind just lost it." Sampras needed 2 hours, 17 minutes to get past Stark, who lost his serve only twice while saving seven break points. Stark was only able to get one break in the match.

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Opening lead: Four of We have frequently remarked that the most successful bridge players are pessimists by nature. Follow Brazil's superstar Gabriel Chagas as he tackles a tricky five-spade con-tract against Canada at the 9th World Bridge Olympiad.

North's two-over-one response was a game force, and South's jump to four clubs was a splinter, showing club shortness. Blackwood revealed the fact that two aces were missing, and the result was a spade contract in no-man's land—the five-level. West led a low heart and the vast West led a low heart and the wast majority of players would reckon they could not lose more than a trick to the two black aces—and would quickly be defeated. After winning the heart they would immediately go after trumps. West would win, lead a club to partner's king and get a heart and for the acting trick.

club to partner a king and get a nearruff for the actting trick.

While a heart ruff was distinctly
against the odds, Chagas considered
the possibility and took preventative measures. After winning the
heart he immediately cashed three
rounds of diamonds, discarding the
chib loser from hand. West was able
to ruff the third diamond, but had
no means of cetting to partner for a no means of getting to partner for a heart ruff. The defenders still got the ace of spades, but that was their

second and lest trick. In the trade, declarer's play is known as the Scissors Coup because it cuts the defenders' lines of com-munication. It's not difficult to execute; the secret lies in finding the right moment to apply it.

## Milan, Torino clash in Super Cup

WASHINGTON (AP) — At first glance, Milan should dominate Torino. But if there is a mismatch in Saturday's Italian Super Cup, it will be the other way around.

The Super Cup, the annual kickoff of the Italian soccer season, will pit the League champion red and black against Italian Cup winner Torino — and this year for the first time the event's six-year history is being held in the United States at Robert F. Kennedy (RFK) Stadium.

The match, being played at one of the nine World Cup venues, is part of the Italian federation's to generate some hype for next year's world championship while also luring potential sponsors,

It will match AC Milan, which rode a 58-match unbeaten streak to its second straight league crown last season, against Torino, which finished eighth in the league before beating AS Roma on away goals in the two-leg Italian Cup final.

While AC Milan's lineup includes some of the biggest names in soccer, many of them haven't made the trip to Washington or won't play for other reasons - Marco Van Basten, still recovering from ankle surgery; Jean-Pierre Papin, on assignment with the French national team; Jean-Pierre Papin, on assignment with the French national team; Gianlugi Lentini, recovered from an automobile accident but still unavailable; and Christian Panucci.

Torino, conversely, will have its best 11, including Uruguayans Enzo Francescoli and Carlos Aguilera, who have rejoined the team from Montevideo, where it played Brazil in World Cup qualifying Sunday a 1-1 draw.

Speaking through interpre-ters, both AC Milan head coach Fabio Capello and his Torino counterpart Emiliano Mondonico Thursday stressed the need for their squads to blend the talents of returning players with talented newcom-

"We've been together enough to teach our new players our style of play," said Mondonico, whose team lost three Italian national team players during the offseason, but added three others from the Uruguayan national team. "But we haven't been together long enough to make

everyone comfortable with

each other yet."
Similarly, despite only a pair
of losses in the last two seasons, the inability to win the European Champions Cup has led to a shakeup at AC Milan - losing Frank Rijkaard to Ajax Amsterdam and Ruud Gullit to Sampdoria, and the squad also is coping with a rebuilding or sorts.

## World Athletics Championships

## Gunnell breaks world record in 400 hurdles Ottey wins gold; Bubka claims 4th world title

STUTTGART (AP) - For Sally Gunnell, breaking the world record in the 400-metre hurdles was something special and unex-pected. For Merlene Ottey, winning the gold medal in the women's 200 metres was the end

of 13 years of frustration and three days of bitter controversy. Gunnell, 27, of Britain, shattered the record by a remarkable two-tenths of a second with a time of 52.74 seconds at the World Championships Thursday night, edging Sandra Farmer-

Patrick, who also went under the previous mark, clocking 52.79. Ottey, 33, of Jamaica, the winner of eight individual bronze medals and two silvers in Olym-

petition since 1980, including a devastating second-place finish to Gail Devers in the 100 Monday night, outran, Gwen Torrence in winning the 200 in 21.98.

The sizzling victories by Gunnell and Ottey overhadowed Sergei Bubka's fourth straight world pole vault title and nearmiss at a world record; Kevin Young's second straight world title in the men's 400-metre hurdles, and Dan O'Brien's struggle to lead the decathlon.

"It was a dream come true," Gunnell said after smashing the world record of 52.94 set by Marina Stepanova of Russia in 1986 and becoming the first Brit-



Gall Devers of the U.S. stares down through the hurdles in qualification heats for the women's 100 metres hurdies (AFP photo)



Great Britain's Sally Gunnell on her way to winning the 400 metres hurdles (AFP photo)

pic or World Championship com- ish woman to break a world record in six years.

At first, Gunnell was uncertain she had won after duelling brilliantly with the pacesetting Farmer-Patrick. She finally realised it when she saw it on the scoreboard at Gottlieb-Daimler Stadium, filled to capacity at

53,200 — and jumped in joy. Farmer-Patrick collapsed onto the track after the momentous race in which she broke her American record of 53.37. She then was helped ionto the medical area by two attendants, before a pep talk from coach Bob Kersee revived her from her mental grief and physical fatigue.

"He said, 'you just got beat and didn't give up like in the past," said Farmer-Patrick, who led from the outset until being overtaken just past the final hur-die by Gunnell. "When he told me, 'great job,' I got revived immediately. I was shocked he

"He also told me, 'she's got to know now that she's got to break the world roord to beat you again.
"I never thought of running that fast and losing."

Ottey was still convinced that she was robbed of a gold in the 100 after finishing in the same time as Devers. "How could they (officials) have the nerve to tell me I lost?" she said earlier in the

Her anger dissolved into joy Thursday night.

"I finally got it after 13 years of waiting ... I have the gold medal." she said, after receiving a near two-minute ovation from the crowd while being presented with her coveted gold.

"I wanted to win it so badly that I ran the first 100 too fast and I was having problems the last 10

"But I had a special feeling I would win this race."

She barely won it, holding off the arm-flailing Torrence, the Olympic champion, who finished second in 22.00. "This is not revenge after the

100," Ottey said. "I came here to win the 100 and 200.

"I wanted to win this race so badly because I don't know if I'll ever be able to compete in the World Championships again."

Bubka, the only athlete to win

four gold medals in the same event in the four World Championships, clinched the victory by clearing 19 feet, 8 1/4 inches (6.00 metres). He then had the bar raised to a world-record 20-1 3-4 (6.14), but missed three times. He came close on his fina attempt, brushing the bar on the

Before his record attempts, he was involved in long, heated discussions with the officials over how much time he would have between jumps. Bubka insisted that since he was the only one left, he was entitled to six minutes, as written in the rules. The officials wanted to give him only

"It was a scandal," Bubka said

American Dan O'brien leaves the starting blocks during the men's 100-metre sprint in the decathlon (AFP photo)

angrily, adding that the verbal bantering made him lose his concentration when he finally did jump — with six-minute breaks.

Yoiung, the world record-holder with a 46.78 clocking at last year's Olympics, ran the fastest time in the world this year. 47.18, in beating defending champion Samuel Matete of Zambia, runner-up in 47.60.

O'Brien, who set the world decathlon record of 8,891 points last year and won the 1991 world title, needed a personal-best 47.46 in the 400 metres, the day's last of five events, to finish with 4,598 points and a four-point margin over crowd favourite Paul Meier of Germany.

"The day was a bit rocky," said O'Brien, competing despite a troublesome groin injury. In the day's other final, Olga Burova of Russia won the 3:38.98.

women's discus at 222-1 (67.40 metres). Meanwhile, Algeria's Noured-

dine Morceli, the world recordholder and defending champion in the 1,500 metres, made his celebrated debut in this year's championships and cruised to victory in his opening-round heat in 3:37.84.

Morceli had threatened to boycott the meet because of lack of prize money, but changed his mind and arrived Wednesday. He said he came because of the importance of the championships and insisted he had no problems with Primo Nebiolo, president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

Britain's Steve Cram, theworld mile record-holder. finished behind Morceli in

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# Libya said to have been given secret pledge on Pan Am trial

EDINBURGH (Agencies) — Secret guarantees have been given to Libya that two men accused of the 1988 bombing of a U.S. airliner would not be handed to the United States if they stood trial in Scotland, a British newspaper reported on Friday.

The scotsman newspaper said a leading Scottish defence lawyer met representatives of Abdul Baset Ali Megrahi and Al Amin Khalifa Fhimah secretly in Brussels to discuss the possibility of giving legal advice to the sus-

Britain and the United States hold the two Libyans responsible for a bomb that exploded on board a London to New York Pan Am flight over Lockerbie in December 1988, killing 270 peo-

The newspaper said the talks were the first real sign that the accused were considering surrendering to arrest warrants issued by Britain and America in November 1991.

It said that in addition to the secret pledge that they would not be handed over to Washington, Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi had been assured a Libyan lawyer could join their defence team. The Scotsman said advocate Lord Macaulay had gone to Brussels after being called in by leading criminal lawyer Alistair Duff. Mr. Macaulay, 59, is the opposition Labour Party's spokesman in the House of Lords on Scottish

legal affairs.
In London, the Crown Office, part of the governent's legal offices, declined to comment in detail on the report.

But a spokesman said: "The crown office was aware in advance that Lord MaCaulay was travelling to Brussels and we were aware of the purpose of the meeting. It was a privae meet-

Libya has consistently refused to hand over the two alleged intelligence agents, despite the imposition of United Nations sanctions against Libya. The government says it will not stand in their way if they surrender volun-

Tripoli has denied any role in the bombing and has said it would surrender the two Lockerbie suspects for trial in a neutral country

but not to the United States or Britain. The offer was rejected. In a television interview

screened in Scotland on Thursday, Colonel Qadhafi said neither war nor sanctions would make Libya hand the men over. But negotiations and understanding could lead to a solution. "All the sanctions of the world

or even of the universe they will never make Libya submit." Col. Qadhafi told a Scottish Television (STV) reporter in Tripoli earlier The Scotsman said elaborate

precautions had been made to house the two accused in a Glasgow prison. Any trial would be held in the high court in Edinburgh or Glasgow. Col. Qadhafi said that the res-

toration of diplomatic links with his country by London and Washington could speed the trial of the two men. In his interview with Scottish

Television, he said the renewal of ties would encourage the two suspects and "would give them more confidence to go" to one or other of the countries to stand



EXHIBITION OPENED: Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Friday opened at the Amman International Fair an exhibition of Jordanian industries (photo above) organised by a local firm in observance of His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the throne anniversary. The exhibition

foodstuffs, electric appliances, construction material and other items. The Armed Forces are participating in the fair by displaying items depict-ing development achieved in manufacturing military equipment and spare parts (Petra photo)

## Israel court orders Demjanjuk detained for another 15 days Noam Federman, a leader of

the Ultra-rightist Kach move-

ment that has threatened to kill

Mr. Demjanjuk, said he was

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel's chief justice on Friday gave petitioners two weeks to present a final appeal to try John Demjanjuk on new war crimes charges.

The decision by supreme court

justice Meir Shamgar gives the nine petitioners until Sept. 2 to convince the highest level of the court that it should look at the Mr. Demjanjuk, 73, was ac-

quitted last month as the guard "Ivan the terrible" of the Treblinka camp. But the court found there was convincing evidence Mr. Demjanjuk belonged to a Nazi guard unit that helped kill Jews and served in other camps. In all, eight high court justices

and the attorney general have decided against a new trial, citing the danger of double jeopardy and saying legal proceedings against the retired Ohio auto worker have already dragged on for too long.

Petitioners must now find arguments they have not made before on why Mr. Demjanjuk should be put on trial again. Mr. Demjanjuk will remain jailed in his isolation cell in the meantime.

Mr. Demjanjuk's son, John Jr., said Friday he was disappointed and concerned for his father's well-being.

"It is difficult to imagine that he has to continue to suffer in a 12 foot by 10 foot, 100 degree prison cell. But that is the hand we have been dealt," he told

"Tm happy for every day that Demjanjuk, is suffering," Mr. Federman said outside the court. Even if they agree to another trial he'll eventually get out and when he goes there will be someone to take care of him."

Mr. Demjanjuk was not in "I decided to carry out the delay of the deportation order until the presentation of a request for a further hearing." Judge

Shamgar said. The ruling by Mr. Shamgar, who led the five-judge panel that acquitted Mr. Demjanjuk three weeks ago, gave groups seeking his prosecution for other alleged war crimes 15 days to prepare

petitions. Mr. Demianiuk, backed by U.S. court ruling that he can return to his home in Cleveland, had planned to fly to the country that became his home after World War II.

Mr. Demjanjuk was stripped of U.S. citizenship in 1981 for lying about his alleged Nazi past and was extradited to Israel in 1986 to

stand trial as "Ivan." Earner this month appeals court said Mr. Demianjuk should be returned to the United States so he can make his case for trying to get back his citizenship. The U.S. Justice De-

partment has sought to block Mr. Demjanjuk from restoring his

In New York, a group of holo-caust survivors filed a lawsuit Thrusday seeking to block Mr. Demjanjuk's return. But U.S. District Judge Leonard B. Sand in Manhattan threw it out, saying he did not have jurisdiction to consider it. The French association of the

sons and daughters of deported French Jews on Friday laid charges against Mr. Demjanjuk for crimes against humanity, the association said.

The French association said even if he was not the SS guard at the Treblinka camp, he was indisputedly an SS guard at the Sobibor camp during World War II." It said the Israeli judicial authorities had not been able to try him for crimes committed at sobibor because the extradition agreement reached with the United States concerned only the acts committed at Treblinka.

But the French judicial authorities would be competent to try him, the association said, nothing that four deportation convoys of French Jews were sent to Sobibor in March 1943.

The association's president is the famous "Nazi hunter" lawyer

France Friday banned Mr. Demjanjuk from passing through Paris if he were released from detention in Israel and headed home to the United States.

## Khartoum scoffs at 'terrorism' charges

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — Sudan has denounced U.S. charges that it exports "terrorism" and vowed to continue national mobilisation and "go forward on the avenue of Jihad." Government newspaper Friday published defiant remarks by In-

terior Minister Brigadier Abdul Raheem Hussein and a statement by the Foreign Ministry saying Washington presented no evidence for its charges. Brig. Hussein told female cadets graduating Thursday from

a Home Defence Force training camp: "A nation whose women carry the Kalashnikov will never be subjugated or humiliated." Every able-bodied Sudanese is

supposed to undergo training for the Home Defence Force militia, a key element of the ruling military junta's Islamisation programme. Many Western experts contend that foreign Islamic extremists, especially Iranians, conduct some of the training, with Egyptian, Algerian, Palestinian and other foreigners among the

The armed forces newspaper Al Nasr reported the speech to the women militia graduates by Brig. Hussein, Sudan's top security officer, who doubles as the junta's secretary-general.

"We will continue to militarise every Sudanese citizen," he said. "Sudan will go forward on the avenue of Jihad, carrying arms for the defence of the beliefs and the nation,"

The United States said Wednesday it was adding Sudan to its list of states sponsoring" international terrorism" because the country harbours foreign "terrorists." The junta leader, Lieutenant, General Omar Hassan Al Bashir, denied the allega-tion and attacked the decision as "politically biased and lacking in evidence and logic."

On Friday, newspapers re-ported a Foreign Ministry statement denouncing the U.S. action. The ministry denied that Sudan hosts "terrorist" organisations and said not a single "terrorist" act has been launched from Sudan. Egypt, Sudan's northern neighbour, claims evidence that Muslim extremists active in that country were trained in Sudan.

The Sudanese statement said arguments the Americans gave for listing Sudan were so weak that the Sudanese government "believes that the main and real reason behind it was that the Sudan's civilised Islamic orientation was not acceptable to the U.S. administration."

Evidence given was far too unsubstantial for "such a grave decision," the statement said. The listing means Khartoum is ineligible for U.S. aid except humanitarian relief, this year totalling \$71 million.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher ordered Sudan be put on the list after a six-month inquiry showed the Sudanese government allowed "terrorist" groups to operate on its territory, State Department spokesman Michael McCurry said Wednes-

day.

The cumulative weight of the evidence establishes that Sudan is providing repeated support for McCurry said.

tion," Mr. Peres said.

they are," he said.

international terrorism," Mr.

'If they won't be hideaways for

the Hizbollah they will not suffer

anything. But if they bring in the

Hizbollah people we don't have a

choice but to chase them where

France urged Israel not to get

caught up in a spiral of violence,

while blaming Hizbollah for

jeopardising the peace process.

While holding the guerrilla

group responsible for Thursday's

attacks. France called on all

states with influence in hte region

to "use it to encourage everyone

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) - Presidential aspirant Ross Perot was criticised by an advocacy group that claimed his use of Patsy Cline's "Crazy" as a theme song at political rallies was insensitive to the mentally ill. The Alliance for the Mentally III of New York State is also angry about the Texas billionaire's frequent likening of the federal deficit to "a crazy aunt we keep down in the basement." "We would like an apology - an acknowledgement that he is, in a sense, very politically incorrect by saying what he is saying," said Glen Liebman, spokesman for the alliance. He said the group represents thousands of family members of Mr Aing mentally ill New Yorkers. Mr. Perot, who will be in New York state this weekend, was quick to

## Noriega can stay

MIAMI (AP) — Manuel Noriega can spend his 40-year cocainetrafficking sentence in the relative luxury of his Miami prison suite, the Federal Bureau of Prisons ruled. With the decision, the former Panamanian ruler, onsted in a December 1989 U.S. invasion, avoids the tough, maximum-security prison in Marion, Ili., where prosecutors had sought the right to place him.
"Obviously, Manuel Noriega has special needs, and we feel that his placement in the area that he's in is in appropriate," said prison bureau spokesman Greg Bogdan Defence attorneys were notified in a letter mailed Tuesday, said lead prosecutor Michael Sullivan-"He can stay in the same (cell) he's been in" Mr. Sullivan said.

## Mahmoud Darwish resigns from PLO's Executive Committee

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Mahmoud Darwish, a highly respected figure considered by many as a symbol of Palestinian culture, has resigned from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee in what Palestinian sources here describe as a unsurprising move. Mr. Darwish, a renowned poet who has written several books and has been honoured with international awards for his outstanding literature, submitted his resignation last week to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and refused to withdraw it, reports from Tunis said.

Mr. Darwish, who joined the PLO Executive Committee in 1987 after Mr. Arafat managed to bring in most mainstream factions under his leadership following a period of serious dissent, had been indicating for several months that he was planning to quit the panel, the sources said.

"Mr. Darwish did not want anything to do with the inter-Palestinian politics and struggle, and wanted to rise above everything and simply confine himself to his literary work," said a source who knows the poet very well. Mr. Darwish, who left the

West Bank after Israel occupied the area in the 1967 war, was seeking to be named the Palestinian representative to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), but Mr. Arafat wanted him to remain in the PLO Executive Committee, said the source. Other sources said Mr. Ara-

fat obviously thought that having such a respected figures as Mr. Darwish, who served as head of the influential General Federation of Palestinian Writers and Journalists, was strengthening the mainstream leadership of the PLO.

In comments carried in reports from Tunis Friday, Mr. Darwish was quoted as saying that he was going "to give all my time to my intellectual

Mr. Darwish was upset with the course of Palestinian decision-making and felt that he could not maintain a figurehead leadership position amid indications that the PLO was making concessions after concessions to the Israelis in the 21-month-old Middle East

peace process.
"Mr. Darwish did not want to be part of an agreement which does not explicitly provide for Israeli withdrawal from all occupied territories, said a PLO source here.

Mr. Darwish opposed the peace process under the present terms of reference and framework imposed by the U.S. and Israel, but hoped that as things went along the Palestinians would be able to wrench a better deal, said the

"But when it became clear by the eighth round (of bilateral talks) that the Israelis and Americans were calling the shots, and the Palestinians were coming under increased pressure to tow the line, he wanted to resign," added the

Another independent PLO executive said in Amman last

month that decisions related to the peace process were limited to a selected group of executive Committee members and close Arafat advisers who wanted to continues the peace talks with Israel regardless of

Sheikh Abdul Hamid Sayeh, speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), resigned three months ago, also in protest against the course of the peace process.

Palestinian negotiators were also disappointed with what they saw as behind-the-scene moves by the PLO without consulting them. Three top negotiators submitted their resignations last month, but retracted it under a compromise which meant they would be closely consulted before the PLO makes any moves in the peace process.

Mr. Darwish is credited with arranging contacts between PLO officials and leftist Israeli politicians, notably the Meretz bloc which is now part of the ruling coalition in the Jewish state.

Mertez leader Shulamit Aloni confirmed last week that she had met with Mr. Darwish after he became a member of the PLO Executive Commit-

Another reason behind Mr. Darwish's resignation, according to a Reuter report from Tunis, was financial management of the PLO. But the sources here doubted whether that figured high in Mr. Darwish's reasons to quit, "given his aversion to getting involved in such issues," as one of the sources put it.

#### **\$28m** for N. seeks **Lebanon** could be donor countries who Robert Souria, who just re-

GENEVA (R) — The United Nations launched an urgent appeal Friday for \$28.7 million to rebuild schools and homes in South Lebanon damaged by an Israeli blitz last month.

But a senior U.N. aid official announcing the appeal conceded that if bombings by pro-Iranian guerrillas continued to draw Israeli retaliation, it might be hard to convince donor countries to give money for immediate reconstruction.

Some 1,500 homes were totally destroyed and 16,000 damaged in late July by Israeli attacks to avenge the killing of its soldiers, according to the U.N. appeal document.

turned to Geneva after heading a

munity will respond positively to this appeal because it would be a gesture of solidarity for the stability of Lebanon.'

Affairs (DHA), added: "I will admit that this appeal will be difficult because when you see what has happened today there

adapt to its way of fighting and

minimise our losses. But we can-

on communities in the north,'

itv) was aimed at preventing the

war of attrition the army faces in

Lebanon from spreading to our

civilians," Mr. Rabin said. "So

far that aim has been achieved."

opposition call to halt peace

Hizbollah to receive arms from

Iran and has certainly not encour-

aged the Lebanese government to

deploy forces in the south, but

breaking off the negotiations with

Damascus would serve no pur-

cial threatened U.N. Secretary

General Boutros Ghali for having

sent condolences to families of

Israeli soldiers killed in guerrilla

Boutros Ghali, who sheds tears

today for the aggressors, will see

his blood spilled as well as that of

"The day will come when

In Baalbeck, a Hizbollah offi-

negotiations with Syria.

He also rejected a right-wing

"It is true that Syria allows the

"Israel will not tolerate attacks

The operation (accountabil-

not prevent casualties."

Mr. Rabin warned.

week-long U.N. inter-agency mission to devastated areas of South Lebanon and the west Bekaa Valley, told reporters: "I strongly hope donor countries and the international com-

Mr. Souria, chief of the relief coordination branch of the U.N. Department of Humanitarian

say, "why reconstruct now if there will be more attacks tomor-"We have to continue raising funds no matter what circumst-

ances might hit, such as those of

today or yesterday," he added.

South Lebanon Friday but most

Hundreds of civilians fled

stayed put as fears subsided of a huge Israeli blitz to avenge the killing by pro-Iranian guerrillas of nine Israeli soldiers and wounding of three in two bomb attacks. Israeli warplanes on Thursday

bombed four Hizbollah targets in eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley in retaliation for the first attack.

peace is the ultimate solution,"

Iran," Mr. Peres told a news conference after talks with Norwegian government leaders. "They provide money and sup-

protection to the Hizbollah and I think many of the villages under-

#### stand now that this is our posito show restraint." 'Electoral change a necessity'

opinion and stand. The important thing is that we should respect each other, to live and to rear up children to accept the principle of dialogue because dialogue is the way to reach what is best (for us

two tasks that face Jordanians were the completion of building up a democratic Jordan and reviving the Great Arab Revolt as a document in a new context."

"We support dialogue over this new national project that would be consistent with the requirements of contemporary reality and that would "serve the interests of the unified family and the Arab nation."

"We are in dire need of (this) new project that would make things follow the right track," he

The King said that there was no change in Jordan's position on the proposal for a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation. Jordan has said that it is premature to discuss the proposal until the Palestinians achieve their complete rights in the occupied terri-

The King said the issue of Jerusalem was very important not only for Muslims but also for Christians, too. He said that any formula on regarding Jerusalem should not give authority to one party over another on the sacred

"We cannot imagine a solution without concentrating on the Jerusalem issue," the King said. "For us, Jerusalem means something, and for Israel it means something else and the one who discusses from outside this region might not comprehend the reality of the issue under discussion.

## Marseille hospital

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Marie Carlo

gets princely gift MARSEILLE (AFP) — Sand Prince Walid Al Waleed Ibn Talal Ibn Abdul Aziz Al Saud gave 5 million francs (\$833,000) to a hospital here which successfully operated on his son, public welfare authorities said. The prince's 15-year-old son suffered a broken skull in a jet-ski accident Tuesday near the French Riviera resort of Saint Tropez. He was rushed to the Timone Hospital where doctors performed the operation. The grateful father wants his gift to be spent on renovations, offi-

#### Clinton tries to resist workaholic tendencies

MARTHA'S VINEYARD, Massachusetts (R) — U.S. President Bill Clinton is vowing to put the drugery of work aside for the next 10 days and just relax and enjoy this exclusive New England resort island. And this time the normally work-prone leader seems to mean it. Mr. Clinton, who celebrated his 47th birthday with family and friends at a dinner party hosted by Washington lawyer Vernon Jordan shortly after his arrival Thursday, expressed mock horror when an aide remarked he had brought some paperwork along. "Burn it" he jokingly commanded. He scheduled a round of golf at the Farm ned to read a few books during a world Bi his stay here. They included a new biography of Thomas Jefferson given to him as a birthday present by Vice-President Al Gore and a thriller by Robert Ludlam. The president is staying with his wife Hillary and their daughter Cheisea at the secluded oceanfront home of Robert McNamara, defence secretary under presidents John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson.

#### Chiang Kai-Shek's grandson travels to China

TAIPEI (R) — A grandson of Taiwan's late Nationalist leader Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek left for China Friday, becoming the first member of the Chiang family to return there in over four president of Taiwan's private Soochow University, led a delegation of about 60 judicial officials and lawyers to Peking to attend a law seminar, which begins on Aug. 23. He will then travel to Guilin in China's southern Guangzi province to sweep his mother's grave. Tombsweeping is a Chinese tradition in which people offer sacrifices to appease the souls of dead family members. Chang, who bears his mother's surname, was born in China before Chiang Kai-Shek's Nationalist, government lost the Chinese civil war and fled to Taiwan in 1949. Chang told reporters Friday that his trip had the blessing of Taiwanese Presi-The is m dent Lee Teng-Hui and political obstacles had been removed.

#### Advocates for mentally ill upset at Perot

теspond with an apology.

## in prison suite

# Muta plot trial to start soon

Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The trial of 10 people accused of plotting an attack against His Majesty King Hussein will open at the State Security Court early next month but two leaders of an illegal group now under detention are not expected to be charged in the case, informed

The sources said unexplained last-minute snags had delayed the trial, which was supposed to have started this

The sources, who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity, said the security forces were seeking two suspects who were still at large and were giving them an ultimatum to give themselves up

immediately. The sources did not say how the ultimatum was being

The sources identified the two as Walid Shahin and Yousef Isbaitan and said the two were suspected of being leading members of the Islamic Liberation (Tabrir) Party

·(ILP). Those already in detention include two other members of the party. Ismail Al Wihah and Hilai Al Shamout, and six students from the military wing of Muta University.
"The trial will start next

month, and if the two at large

remain missing, they will be

tried in absentia along with the other eight," said a senior According to the source,

ILP spokesman Ata Abu Rish-

deh, who were arrested in May, did not appear to be linked with the Muta plot, which involved an assassination attempt against King Hussein during a graduation cere-

"As far as evidence indicates, the two are not being detained in connection with the plot," said the source. The comment indicated that Mr. Abu Rishteh and Mr.

mony in June.

Khawaldeh could have been detained for undertaking political activities without obtaining legalisation of the group. The ILP, which maintains a defiant posture towards all existing Arab governments, has not applied for registration with the government under the political parties law enacted in

In a statement given to the Associated Press early this week, the ILP denied any involvement in the Muta plot and said it had no links whatsoever with the students detained. The group did not say whether the two others in detention belonged to the party.

Another member of the ILP, Ibrahim Judeh, was arrested two weeks ago, but it was not immediately known whether he was suspected of involvement in the Muta plot. An official spokesman last

week confirmed the arrests and

the discovery of the plot. Re-

porting on the affair so far has

been restricted since investigations were continuing. According to Jordanian press laws, cases under investigation are not supposed to be reported. But when trials start, there are no restrictions to reporting the actual proceed-

More than 30 people were initially rounded up for questioning in connection with the Muta plot in April. All except the eight suspects have been

released since then. Families of the suspects held a press conference last week to maintain the innocence of the detainees and appeal to the King to intervene and ensure that "justice is carried out." They alleged that the suspects were tortured while

undergoing questioning. The suspects were moved to a military prison in Zarqa earlier this month, and some of the family members were allowed to visit them. The ILP was founded in the

West Bank in 1951. Its founder, Taqiddiene Noubani, later set up a Jordan branch. It was outlawed when political parties were banned in the Kingdom in 1957. The group does not recognise any Arab regimes and seeks the establishment of caliphate-style governments

through coups d'etats. Its re-

cord shows that it does not

believe in passive or violent

resistance to regimes, but

seeks the help of influential

caliphate-style, rather than a

nationalist, state.

community leaders and the military to topple govern-The ILP is not part of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories apparently because it does not believe that such resistance will serve its purpose of creating a

## Hizbollah warns against attacks

(Continued from page 1) said they ruled out an Israeli response similar to the air, artillery and sea bombardments last

month that killed 150 people and drove 300,000 from their homes. But guerrillas and Lebanese troops were on high alert for what the sources expected to be a limited reply to Thursday's bombings which took the

bloodiest toll among Israeli troops in Lebanon since 1985. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Thursday's bomb attack did not violate the ceasefire and the deaths would not affect Middle East peace talks,

due to resume on Aug. 31. "There would be no sense in going to Beirut or widening the security zone," Mr. Rabin told Israel radio, ruling out any escalation unless guerrillas target Israeli civilians.

Deputy Defence Minister Mot-

ta Gur added: "Operation Accountability cannot be repeated every week." He was referring to last month's blitz. Under the U.S.-brokered ceasefire, Lebanon and Syria pledged to stop the rocketing of northern

tating operation. Mr. Rabin said the ceasefire was holding and admitted that the bomb blasts Thursday were within the "rules" of the conflict in southern Lebanon. "The Israeli army will have to

his collaborators who plot against our resistance," Sheikh Moham-Israel, which sparked the devasmad Yazbek said. In Oslo, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres vowed revenge for the deaths of nine Israeli soldiers and called Iran the big-gest trouble maker in the Middle

Mr. Peres, in Oslo as part of a adapt to how the Hizbollah fights," Mr. Rabin said.
"I am sorry the Hizbollah beat tour of Scandinavia, said Israel would continue regional peace us yesterday. We will have to talks despite Thursday's deaths in

bomb blasts. "We shall fight terrorism because we have to provide security for all peoples, not only Israelis. We shall fight for peace because

"Today the greatest trouble maker in the Middle East is

port."
"We hope that the villages (in South Lebanon) will not provide

(Continued from page 1)

The King said that the basic